

iPHONE, iPAD & ANDROID

Apps

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magazine

TM

No.57

30/7 AMAZING APP REVIEWS





FROM THE DIRECTOR OF **THE DARK KNIGHT TRILOGY** AND **INCEPTION**

INTERSTELLAR

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 LEGENDARY 

WARNER BROS. HOME VIDEO
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DS214play



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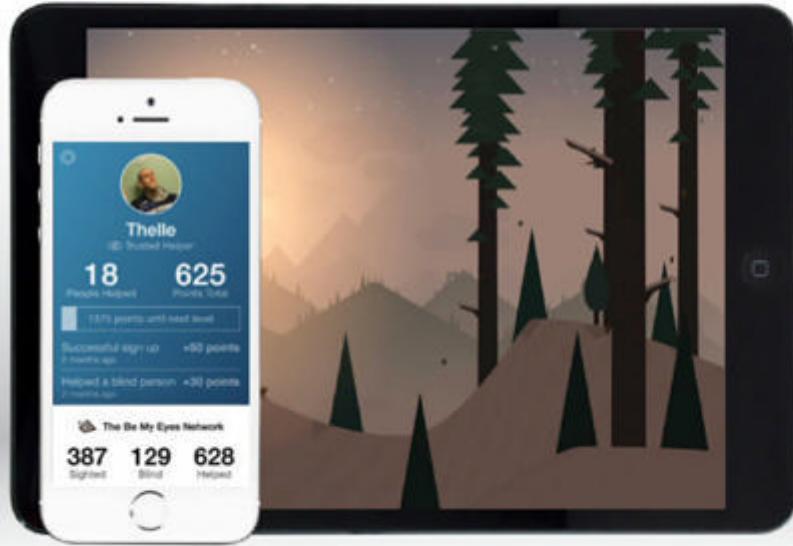
iOS    DLNA  AirPlay

To celebrate the release of the latest Christopher Nolan epic, Interstellar (on Digital HD, Blu-ray™ and DVD), Synology is giving you the chance to win great prizes so please join us at The Gadget Show Live (8-12 April) or visit our Facebook page



WELCOME TO APPS MAGAZINE

Your essential apps guide every issue



The team recommends...

DAN HUTCHINSON

Editor in Chief

 A uniquely altruistic app, free download *Be My Eyes* (page 27) enables sighted users to help blind people with everyday tasks through a live video chat.

DOM PEPPIATT

Contributor

 A work of interactive art, *Alto's Adventure* (page 40) is the endless runner's answer to indie puzzle game *Monument Valley*.

ALFRED REMOTE

• iPad+ | iOS 7.1 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.0

ALTO'S ADVENTURE

• iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v1.0.0

BE MY EYES

• iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.3

LAST TIME

• iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v2.0.0

JACK PARSONS

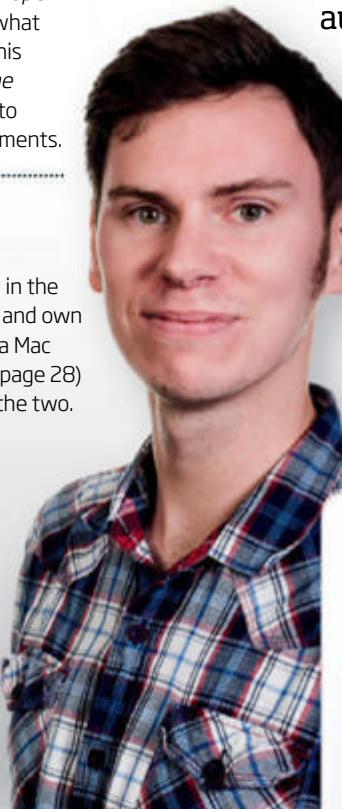
Deputy Editor

 If you enjoy *Timehop*'s daily updates of what you were doing this time last year, try *Last Time* (page 31). It makes it easy to reflect on your accomplishments.

OLIVER HILL

Contributor

 If you've invested in the Apple ecosystem and own both an iPad and a Mac computer, *Alfred Remote* (page 28) is a great way to combine the two.



People spend more time on tech than they do sleeping. Over half of the average waking day is spent texting, talking, playing games, listening to music and watching videos, says a study carried out by Ofcom. That adds up to eight hours and 41 minutes, while the average night's sleep is eight hours and 21 minutes. With people using their phones more than ever, this issue is packed with the best apps to guide you through your entire day, from dawn until dusk (page 14).

If the idea of spending so much time staring at screen horrifies you, check out our guide to the leading automation apps (page 18). They will perform jobs so you don't have to, such as sharing your photos to your preferred social network or turning off the lights when you go out, freeing up your time.

Jack Parsons

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CONTENTS

367 APPS INSIDE



ENTERTAINMENT 19 APPS



022 Amazing interactive stories

Enjoy immersive eBooks

023 Bloglovin'

Read the latest blogs and discover new content

024 Vimo

Slap stickers on your videos

024 Acast

Podcasts with pictures

EVERYDAY

22 APPS

026 Transfer your money

Move money with no fuss

027 Be My Eyes

Help the blind to see

028 Alfred Remote

A mobile Mac command centre

029 Hydra - Amazing Camera

Boost your camera to 32MP

029 Where Chefs Eat

High-end eatery ideas

030 Runbit

Get fit while chasing stars

030 Last Time

Recall important everyday tasks

WORK

14 APPS

032 QUEST - Tasks, Reminders & To Do List

Bored of work? Game on...

033 Currenci

How much is that croissant in the window?

033 The Hit List

Be more productive with lists within lists

GAMES

22 APPS

036 Gorgeous games

Gawp at these visually stunning pieces of mobile art

037 Radiation Island

Venture off the beaten survival path

038 Midnight Star

A shining star, or a supermassive black hole?

039 Odd Bot Out

An oddly brilliant platformer

039 Dictator: Outbreak

You won't fool the children of the revolution

040 Alto's Adventure

Enjoy endless skiing fun

040 King of Thieves

A robbin' good puzzler?

THE TOP 200 GREATEST APPS EVER

44

A circular graphic featuring a clock face with the number '24' in large red digits. The text 'APPS YOU'LL USE EVERY DAY' is written in bold black letters across the center. Below the text, it says 'ESSENTIAL APPS TO USE MORNING, NOON AND NIGHT'. The background of the circle is a gradient of blue and purple, with small icons of a calculator, a notepad, and a smartphone scattered around the perimeter.

20 TOP 10 MUSIC APPS



IN TOUCH

APPS ★ PEOPLE ★ GEAR



AUTOMATE EVERYTHING

18 MAKE YOUR MOBILE LIFE EASIER WITH THESE TOP TOOLS

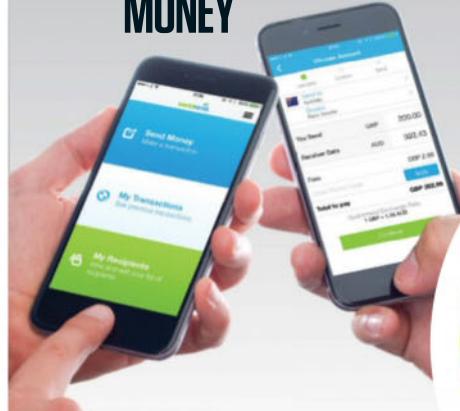
22 AMAZING INTERACTIVE STORIES



36 GORGEOUS GAMES



26 TRANSFER YOUR MONEY



006 Great Days Out

Find the best places for a family day trip thanks to How It Works magazine

008 Opinion

Dan Onions of DASH tells how tech can be incorporated into businesses

009 Keep up with the latest trends

Best apps to follow fashion

010 Win! Virtual Reality Headset

Explore stunning 3D worlds with these VR goggles

011 My home screen

Must-have apps for animal lovers

012 Gear round-up

This month's essential gadgets



PLUS

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR APPS!

042 Create IFTTT recipes with Do Camera

Personalise how you snap and share your photos with IFTTT's new dedicated camera automation app

HOW WE REVIEW

OPERATING SYSTEM

Certain apps only work on specific operating systems; check your device meets the specifications here.

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.0 | Free | v4.5.2

● Android | OS 2.2 | Free | v4.6.3

FORMAT

Some apps are specific to iPhone or iPad, however if listed with a plus symbol, apps will work on both devices.

VERSION

We always review the latest versions of apps when going to publication, but bear in mind issues we outline may be fixed in updated versions.

PRICE

We list the most up-to-date price possible, but check before purchasing. Note that free apps may still require some in-app purchases.

IN TOUCH

APPS ★ PEOPLE ★ GEAR



GET EXCITED ABOUT...

GREAT DAYS OUT

DISCOVER FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY WITH HOW IT WORKS' BRAND-NEW APP

Make the most of your weekends with *How It Works: Great Days Out*, a new app from the popular science and technology magazine for all ages. Just as *How It Works* magazine is both fact-filled and fun, *Great Days Out* is packed with family-friendly places across the UK to visit that are both educational and entertaining.

Great Days Out features live listings information from thousands of museums, galleries and heritage sites supplied by Culture24, an organisation supported by Arts Council England. The app then makes it easy to search through this huge database of thought-provoking places, either as a map that you can explore or as a curated list of places near your location. Every place featured in the app includes a detailed profile, complete with photos, a venue description, opening times and contact details. You can even get turn-by-turn

directions to attraction addresses so that you can easily get to your desired location.

"If *How It Works* is the magazine that feeds minds then *Great Days Out* is an app that feeds, stimulates and excites minds through amazing first-hand experiences," said Dave Harfield, Editor in Chief of *How It Works*. "If you want to find unique and interesting activities for your family that are both exciting and educational then this app will provide everything you need for truly great days out, over and over again. No family should be without it."

Currently *How It Works: Great Days Out* is available on iPhone, however an Android version is also planned.



HOW IT WORKS: GREAT DAYS OUT

• iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.0.1

LOOKING FOR MORE TRAVEL AND NAVIGATION APPS? HEAD TO OUR TOP 200 ON PAGE **46**



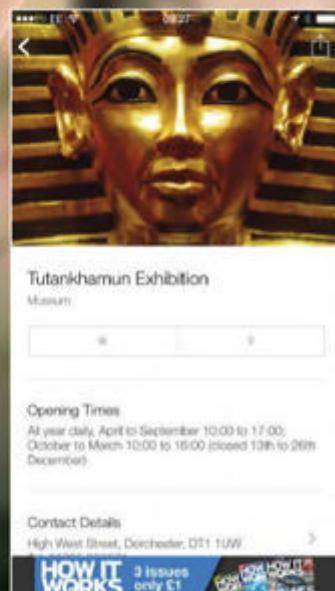
HOW IT WORKS....



01 **Look around you**
Explore a map to discover great days out across the UK. Zoom in and out to view towns and cities in more depth and tap the red icons to view more in-depth profiles of every attraction.



02 **Local listings**
For quick results, you can also view a list of attraction near you, organised by how close they are. As well as including photos, the list also details each attraction's distance in miles.



03 **Detailed profiles**
Whichever mode you use, every attraction you tap includes very useful information such as a detailed venue description, photos, opening times, ticket prices and contact information.



04 **Hit the road**
When viewing a listing, tap on the map for a close-up look at nearby roads. You can even tap the arrow icon for turn-by-turn directions to your desired place from your current location.

FAVOURITE PLACES

When you find an attraction you like, tap the star icon. You can then find it quickly and easily in a saved list of favourites - even when you're offline.

100% INDEPENDENT

Great Days Out is not affiliated with any of the attractions listed in the app, so all information is completely unbiased and covers a huge range of days out, from zoos and museums, to cathedrals and national parks.

SHARE ATTRACTIONS

If you want to tell a friend about an attraction, you can send links via SMS text message, email or post it to your favourite social networks.

REGULARLY UPDATED

Powered by live listings from Culture24, *Great Days Out* is constantly being updated with new attractions and events for you to do.

BRINGING COOL TECH INTO BUSINESSES

"Organisations should harness the cool tech factor and take advantage of the apps revolution in business," says Dan Onions, founder of DASH



Tech was not always cool. The fact that it became so popular has been one of the most important factors in the development of technology industry. Mobile apps mean that consumers are now driving the demand for new technology at a faster rate than businesses ever could. This is the apps revolution, but it's really just the start.

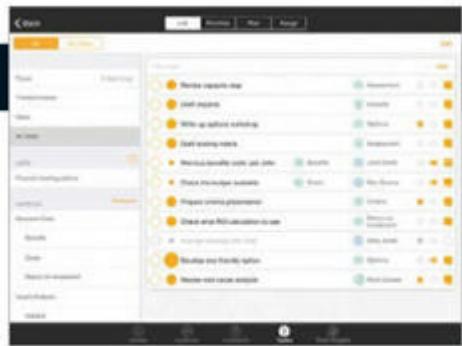
For many years computers and software were hidden inside universities and businesses, and most people were not interested and weren't exposed to it. About 25 years ago computers started coming into the home, but it was only the geeks (like me) that were into them. Technology was driven by the needs of businesses, but not for everyday consumers. Most people had not heard of an app. The apps revolution happened because we reached a tipping point where technology started getting really useful for everyone, through the internet and mobile devices. The best technologies these days are driven by consumers, because tech is cool and people want more of it.

We are now in a situation where businesses are lagging behind consumers. You are more likely to get better technology in your home than in the office.

User demand is now influencing technology in organisations. A good example of this is the iPad. It's a highly intuitive device, widely loved by its millions of users and as a result, the wider tablet market took off. And because of this success, businesses took notice.

Many organisations often seem to go out of their way to be uncool, by providing older technology to employees. Businesses are very conservative in technology decisions, because buying for many people at once is a very big investment. It tends to take a long time too because many people need to agree for it to actually happen, and the decision needs to be safe and justified.

Uncool tech is seen as a safe decision, because that is the normal way. In fact, buying cool tech in the business environment arouses suspicions that it's an emotional decision.



Dash works at improving your thinking and goal-completion

This is a false economy. The true benefit of technology is when it fits with the needs of people - when people love something they are more motivated and productive.

The reason that people love iPads is not just because they look good, they are also stable, reliable, easy to use and light. Most of all it is the amazing apps that are developed on it, which are immediately usable without training. If businesses can harness the 'love-factor' this has big implications for increasing productivity, lowering IT training costs and encouraging business change. Businesses often struggle with reforming the way they operate.

In the case of the iPad, things are looking better. Last year, IBM and Apple announced a deal where IBM will develop iPhone and iPad apps for businesses and sell Apple hardware. IBM has a huge global sales force used to selling to businesses.

The App Store is already the biggest app platform, with plenty of business and productivity apps that are aimed at individuals, but this is just the beginning. The whole idea of apps is changing the way that people think about business software. Business IT systems tend to be highly centralised and hard to evolve. In contrast, the App Store has over a million apps created by thousands of developers all running on the same platform.

We are starting to see businesses provide their own apps for employees and customers for them to use. More importantly, businesses will create their own platforms so that data is more easily exposed for apps. This change will be the big revolution in business apps.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DASH, VISIT WWW.DASH.PM

DASH PROJECT & TASK MANAGEMENT



Control and complete work, not just by focusing on the goals of the project but by looking at what you need to do to achieve them.

iPad | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v1.2



"USER DEMAND IS NOW INFLUENCING TECHNOLOGY IN ORGANISATIONS"

DAN'S TOP FIVE APPS

CITYMAPPER

The best app for getting around big cities like London and New York with journey plans across all types of transport, including cycling, trains and driving.
iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Free
Android | OS 2.3 | Free

MONUMENT VALLEY

This beautiful puzzle game is based on the art of MC Escher, and was made by London studio ustwo.
iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | £2.99/\$3.99
Android | OS 2.3.3 | £2.49/\$3.99

THE ECONOMIST ESPRESSO

Get good reading on the go with the best analysis, and a slick adaptation of magazine format.
iPad | iOS 7.0 | Freemium
Android | OS 4.0 | Free

KEYNOTE

The Apple presentation app - a very personal way to present to your audience, taking advantage of iCloud for seamless slide updates and that famous, clean Apple style.
iPad | iOS 8.0 | £7.99/\$9.99

STRATPAD: BUSINESS PLANNING AND STRATEGY APP

Helps you write a business plan like an interactive presentation.
iPad | iOS 5.0 | £25.99/\$34.99

HOW TO...

FOLLOW FASHION

BE STREETS AHEAD OF THE FASHION PACK WITH SOME STYLISH APPS

Everybody wants to look good but it can feel like a bit of minefield. Is that dress cool this season? What shoes look great with a certain skirt? Some people resort to sticking with their own particular style but if you fancy a change or want to get ahead of the next trend, then you can do so from the comfort of your phone or tablet. With lots of news, suggestions, online help and apps that work out what you do and don't like, you'll be walking tall this Spring.

APPS USED

STYLE.COM

 Style.com is all about giving users great inspiration, showing the season's leading cutting-edge fashion trends.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v.4.1

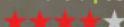


POSE

 With bloggers from New York to Los Angeles and fashion for all sizes, you get an instant feel for the latest styles.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v.5.2.6

● Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free | v.5.1.0



GRABBLE: THE FASHION FINDER

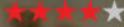
 Imagine a shop assistant threw clothes upon clothes your way and you could just grab the ones that you liked. That's *Grabble*.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0

● Free | v.1.8

● Android | OS 4.0

● Free | v.1.3



01 Fly the runway

Beloved by fashion editors, *Style.com* is part of the stylish in-crowd so make sure you make it your first port of call. Browse through the news and look for the current fashion trends, brought to your phone with clear images and solid descriptions.



02 Strike a pose

Now let's see what people are wearing away from the catwalks. *Pose* is a social media app which lets you select and follow bloggers, celebrities and stylists as well as brands. Take time to browse through other people's clothing listings.



03 Study their style

When you click on a person's listing, you will see photos, each of which describe what the person is wearing. You can read the comments on the listings and leave your own feedback. It gives an idea of the current-day's street trends.



04 Expert advice

Now use *ASAP54* to search for specific fashion items. Type in a brand name, search via photo and try hashtags before discovering where you can buy each outfit. Stuck? You can ask *ASAP54*'s in-house stylists for advice within 24 hours.



05 Shopping spree

By identifying specific brands and fashion designers, you should have a good idea of your own style and the fashion available. Now it's time for a shopping spree. Download *Grabble* and select the filters for the clothes you like to wear.



06 Throw or grab

With *Grabble*, you can quickly see a range of brands from major retailers presented one after another. You can either throw an item aside or grab it. Your grabbed items are saved with each individual item available for an instant purchase.

FINAL THOUGHT

Fashion is big business so it's not surprising that there is such a strong app presence. With these apps, we've been able to check the latest fashion, see how that has transcended into everyday life, been able to search for specific brands and get lots of inspiration. It's been a very easy process.

COMPETITION

WIN! VIRTUAL REALITY HEADSETS

ENJOY 3D APPS, GAMES AND MOVIES WITH THESE VR GOGGLES

You've probably seen countless videos on the internet of people wearing the much-lauded Oculus Rift, tripping out in digital worlds and generally loving life. Not only is this revolutionary device unavailable until 2016, but you'll probably have to sell a number of vital organs just to buy it. Well, feast your eyes on (and indeed, in) the Immerse Virtual Reality Headset - a new and affordable foray into the breathtaking world of virtual reality. Only £29.99 from [Firebox.com](#), this wireless headset works with your iPhone or Android smartphone to bring imaginary worlds to life.

Just load up your chosen piece of virtual content, slot your smartphone into the rugged plastic enclosure, put it up to your eyes then adjust the lenses and comfortable head straps to your liking. It's never been easier

(or more affordable) to explore these vivid new environments from the comfort of your living room.

Because it utilises your smartphone, it's compatible with hundreds of free and inexpensive VR apps on the App Store and Play Store. There are also tons of free videos on YouTube too, just search for 'side by side 3D' and get exploring. So whether you want to watch 3D movies, explore new worlds, play immersive games or you're just looking for a quick departure from our own tedious reality - there's something for everyone. Thanks to our friends at Firebox, we have three Immerse Virtual Reality Headsets to give away. For your chance to win one, head to our website and answer the following question.



WHAT GAME DID WE REVIEW ON PAGE 37 OF THIS ISSUE?

A: Desert Island B: Radiation Island C: Rain Island

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INFORMATION,
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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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MY HOME SCREEN

THE ANIMAL LOVER

TOP APPS FOR PEOPLE WITH A KEEN INTEREST IN PETS AND WILDLIFE

Whether you have a pet of your own or you love seeing animals in their natural habitat, in zoos or in nature parks, you can indulge your passion with a good selection of apps. Here we look at some essential tools that will help you care for your pet as well as watch animals in all kinds of far flung locations across the world. You'll also be able to communicate with friends - no matter if they are new-found humans or simply lovable animals.



POCKET ZOO WITH LIVE ANIMALS CAMS

ALTERNATIVE TO: VIDEOS

 As well as letting you see polar bears, tigers and penguins at more than ten live animal cams from zoos across the world, *Pocket Zoo* has over 150 wildlife videos with photos and animal sounds.

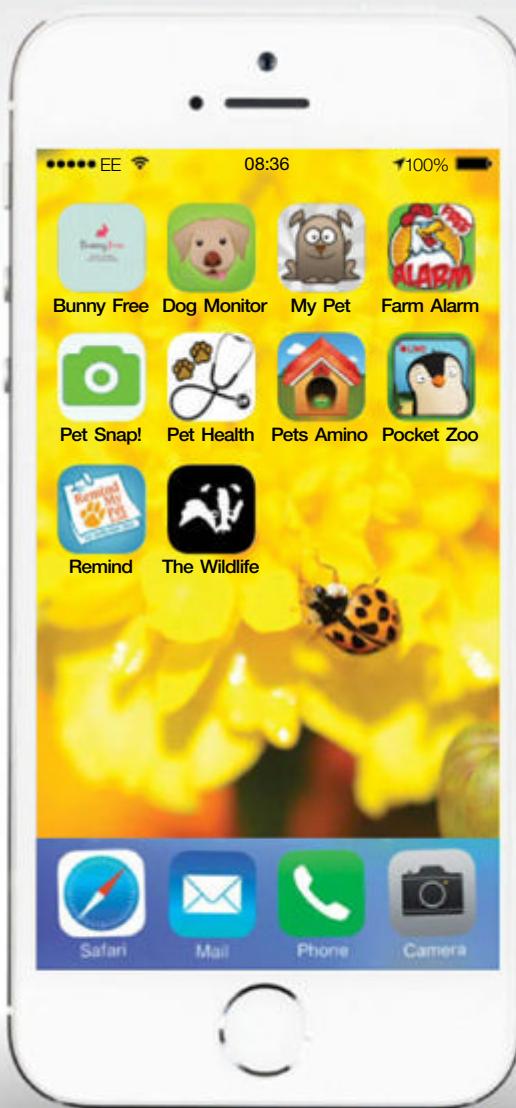
● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | Free | v2.3

MY PET THE ULTIMATE PET RECORD MAKER

ALTERNATIVE TO: PHOTO

 *My Pet* is a fabulous, varied app but one of the most fun parts is a photo and video album section that lets you keep track of your animal as he or she grows up.

● iPhone | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v2.5



"PET HEALTH LETS YOU CREATE A PET'S MEDICAL RECORD, DETAILING ITS VACCINATIONS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION"

PETS AMINO

ALTERNATIVE TO: MESSAGES

 Being able to keep in touch with like-minded animal lovers is great fun. With *Pets Amino* you can share photos of your beloved pets, view others users pictures and comment on them.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free | v1.5.12
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v1.013

REMIND-MY-PET

ALTERNATIVE TO: REMINDERS

 Aimed at reminding you when a poorly pet needs his or her medication, *Remind-My-Pet* lets you set up folders for each animal that you take care of. This top app then gives you the choice of one-off, daily, weekly or monthly reminders so that you never forget to give them their pills.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.1 | Free | v1.0.2

FARM ALARM CLOCK – ANIMAL SOUNDS

ALTERNATIVE TO: CLOCK

 Want to start your day the animal way? You'll certainly be alert and awake with this app. You can fall asleep to farm noises and choose from five free animal alarm sounds. Great for entertaining kids.

● iPhone+ | iOS 4.0 | Freemium | v1.4

PET SNAP!

ALTERNATIVE TO: CAMERA

 It is hard to take photos of your pets - it usually entails you making lots of embarrassing funny noises to get them to look at you. *Pet Snap!* makes life easier by emitting attention-grabbing toy, whistles or bird sounds to grab your beloved's attention while an image is slyly being prepared.

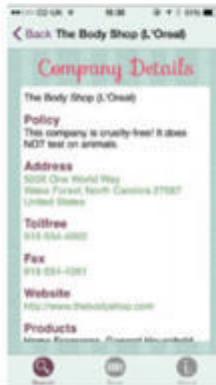
● iPhone | iOS 6.1 | £0.79/\$0.99 | v1.01

PET HEALTH (MEDICAL DIARY AND LOG)

ALTERNATIVE TO: HEALTH

 It is vital to keep an eye on your animal's wellbeing. *Pet Health* lets you create a pet's medical record, detailing its vaccinations, conditions, allergies and important information.

● iPhone | iOS 5.0 | £0.79/\$0.99 | v2.1



DOG MONITOR

ALTERNATIVE TO: FACETIME

 For this to work, you need two iOS devices. When they are connected, you can leave one at home and take the other out and about with you, using the camera function to see your dog live and the microphone to talk as if you were right next to it.

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.1 | £2.99/\$3.99 | v2.0.4



BUNNY FREE

ALTERNATIVE TO: SAFARI

 Input the name of a company into the search engine of *Bunny Free* and it will tell you if the firm tests its wares on animals. You can also scan the barcodes of items for a speedier response on any product.

● iPhone | iOS 6.0 | Free | v1.0.1
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v1.0

THE WILDLIFE TRUSTS: NATURE FINDER

ALTERNATIVE TO: MAPS

 This app is UK-only but lets you explore more than 2,000 nature reserves across 47 Wildlife Trusts showing all of the wildlife in each location with a handy map and events.

● iPhone | iOS 6.1 | Free | v1.1

GEAR ROUNDUP

PRONTO PEEL

Pronto turns your Bluetooth signal into infrared signals, enabling you to use your iPhone as a remote control. By then using the accompanying free Peel Smart Remote app, and connecting to the portable unit, you can use Pronto as your very own TV guide, as well as a social media platform to share details about your favourite programmes and movies. As a remote control, performance is decidedly mixed and it's often a bit of a struggle to see if your TV works with the product.

★★★★★

£TBC/\$49.99 | Pronto | www.getpronto.com

SEAGATE WIRELESS PLUS

Wireless storage drives are in abundance, but Seagate's Wireless Plus is one of the few to include a staggering 2TB of storage to use. After a rather long set-up process via Wi-Fi, actually using the drive to transfer and use files is simple enough. Despite the storage size it includes, the drive is fairly lightweight, but noticeably thicker than similar wireless drive on the market. It's also very expensive and you can get similar drives, albeit from a lesser name, at around half the cost. However, Seagate's offering gets the job done well enough for us to recommend it.

★★★★★

£159.99/\$TBC | Seagate | www.seagate.com

ZEPPELIN GOLF

Golf is a hard sport to master, so getting any help you can is key. The Zepp Golf is a small, lightweight sensor that attaches to your glove and monitors your swing. Through the official app, users can then analyse the problems with their swing and get recommendations on how to change it. To take it a step further, there's a full 3D mode to locate poor body posture. As an analytical system, there's simply nothing really like it on the market, but the price will alienate some of the more casual golfers.

★★★★★

£129.99/\$149.99 | Zepplin | www.zepplin.com

RHA T10 HEADPHONES



RHA's superb pedigree when it comes to producing quality in-ear headphones continues well with the T10s. The first thing you'll notice is the svelte figure the headphones cut when in use and while there's some length with the audio cable, it isn't overly long. Both bass and treble work in harmony no matter what song you're playing and the headphones seem to cope with pretty much anything we streamed through them. For a top-quality sound experience, the T10 headphones are certainly worth considering.

★★★★★

£139.95/\$189.95 | RHA | www.rha.co.uk

If Apple made a magazine

www.icreatemagazine.com



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• 50 Ways to set up the perfect Mac • Best extensions for OS X & iOS 8

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newsagents and
supermarkets



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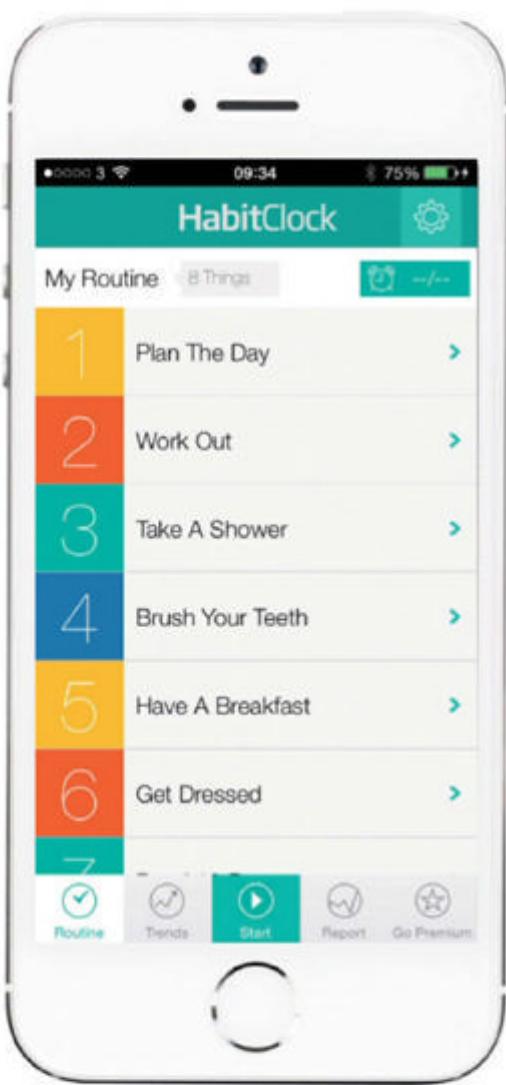


twitter.com/icreatemagazine

24 APPS YOU'LL USE EVERY DAY

ESSENTIAL APPS TO USE MORNING,
NOON AND NIGHT

MORNING



Add 'habits' to your to-do list to organise your morning routine

WEATHER UNDERGROUND

 Before stepping out of the door, you'll want to know what the weather will be like and if you need an umbrella or coat. *Weather Underground* delivers accurate, hyper-local forecasts thanks to its use of crowdsourced data from users. As well as detailed hourly info an interactive map shows various overlays like an animated radar of approaching rainstorms.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium
● Android | OS 4.0 | Freemium

HABITCLOCK 06:15



Is your morning routine a whirlwind of frantic activity as you run around like a headless chicken trying to do everything before you leave for work? *HabitClock* breaks your routine up into bite-size chunks to help you organise and manage it better. To get started, you add 'habits' – such as brush teeth, make coffee and walk the dog – to a to-do list. To make the process easier, popular habits and ready-made lists are available in the Trends section, or you can create your own custom ones.

After turning off the in-app alarm in the morning, a timer begins for the first item on the list until you've completed it and checked it off. You then move onto the next item, although you can always skip it to send it to the end of the list, thereby changing the order. You can also share your morning routine with others and see theirs for inspiration.

While the app is free to use, a premium subscription (£1.49/\$1.99 per month) adds detailed reports on your habits, so you can analyse your performance and see what you need to change to perfect it.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium

WAKE UP TO GREAT APPS

06:00

ALARMY

 Billed as the 'world's most annoying alarm clock', *Alarry* (*Sleep If U Can*) requires you to get out of bed and snap a photo to match the one shown on screen – only then will the alarm stop. But, you can set the accuracy level required for the photo matching with swipe or shake options for turning the alarm off too.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

● Android | OS 2.3 | £1.10/\$1.71

06:30

CALORIE COUNTER & DIET TRACKER

 To ensure you have a healthy breakfast, check out how your meal weighs up in terms of calories and nutrients using this free app from MyFitnessPal. Its database of foods is vast and you can quickly add and save multiple items and entire meals. It even has a built-in barcode scanner. As well as counting calories, it tracks protein, carbs and more – plus your exercise routines.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

● Android | Varies | Free

07:00

TUNEIN RADIO

 Why listen to the same old local radio stations at breakfast time when you can have access to over 100,000 global stations? *Tunein Radio* is the ultimate internet radio and it's great for discovering podcasts and new music too as you can instantly see songs playing in each genre.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

● Android | Varies | Free

08:00

YAHOO NEWS DIGEST

 There's no need to get a morning paper delivered to your door when you can get all the top news stories sent to your phone twice daily. Tap on a headline to view the story in a stylish layout with the text broken up by photo montages and videos. There are also links at the bottom that offer extra in-depth info.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

● Android | OS 4.0 | Free

08:30

WAZE

 Before leaving for work, check if there are any traffic jams with *Waze*. This community-based navigation app offers live routing based on real-time info from other users and automatically reroutes you if conditions change. It provides turn-by-turn voice-guided directions and can send your ETA and real-time info to anyone you're meeting.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free

● Android | Varies | Free



Looks like rain, so you'd better take an umbrella!

BEAT THE PM SLUMP

14:30

FIND ME COFFEE

 Get a caffeine boost with *Find Me Coffee*. You'll be able to see all the coffee shops in your vicinity with ratings, reviews and directions on the map. It's also a good way to meet up with friends as you can share the chosen coffee shop info via email, SMS, Twitter or Facebook.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free
● Android | OS 2.1 | Free

15:30

THE JOHNSON & JOHNSON OFFICIAL 7 MINUTE WORKOUT APP

 Energise yourself with a quick burst of exercise in the office. All you need is a wall, a chair and a little floor space for a high-intensity workout with this app. Each of the exercises is demonstrated by personal fitness expert Chris Jordan in a video. They suit all fitness levels, and they can be combined into over 1,000 different workout patterns.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free

16:00

CUT THE ROPE 2

 Take some time out with this quick game - so long as the boss isn't looking! *Cut the Rope 2* is one of the best casual games and as in the original, you need to cut ropes to drop candy into Om Nom's mouth, but this time you can use his friends' special abilities, such as long tongues and springy heads. It's a compulsive challenge.

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.0 | £2.29/\$2.99
● Android | OS 2.3 | Freemium

16:30

PUSHBULLET

 Don't miss any phone notifications or texts while you're working - get them sent to your computer! *Pushbullet* shares them via a Windows or Mac app, or a web browser extension. You can even send texts from your PC if you have an Android phone. The app is also ideal for sharing files, photos and weblinks between devices and to contacts.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | Free
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free

17:00

THREES!

 Much more fun than juggling numbers in a spreadsheet, this is the best sliding blocks game around. The need to combine 1 and 2 tiles into 3s adds extra depth to the strategy as you otherwise smash matching tiles together. It's easy to learn, but you'll likely spend hours trying to get a high score.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99
● Android | OS 2.3 | £1.31/\$1.99

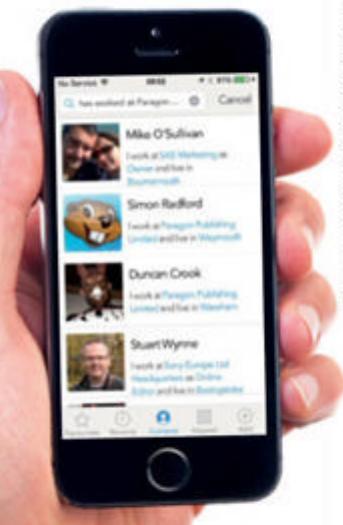
AFTERNOON

13:00

HUMIN

 Always forgetting names? *Humin* could help. Rather than scrolling through an A-Z list, this contacts app lets you search for terms like 'met last month' or 'lives in Croydon'. It works by combining info from sources such as Facebook, LinkedIn, calendar, email and voicemail. It'll even show you the contacts that matter right now, such as someone in your next meeting, so you can swot up on them!

● iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Free
● Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free



BLINKIST

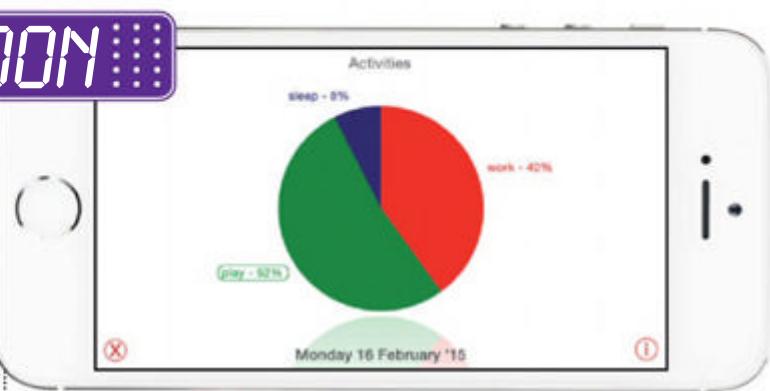
15:00

 Keen to learn about new ideas from business books and other non-fiction publications, but don't have the time to wade through a load of weighty tomes? *Blinkist* takes their key insights and delivers them in bite-size chunks that take mere minutes to peruse. Tapping one of the 500+ titles in its library presents some general info about the book, its author and target readership, plus a list of key insights - just tap one to read more about it. The reading interface is nice and clean and features options to change the font size and share what you've learnt with *Blinkist*-using colleagues.

Blinkist's impressive library is helpfully arranged into categories, which range from obvious business-related ones, such as Management & Leadership and Human Resources to genres like Science and Health & Fitness, so there should be something of interest to everyone.

As a premium subscription service, *Blinkist* costs from £3.99/\$4.99 per month (or £34.99/\$49.99 per year), but you can sign up for a free, no obligation three-day trial to see how it works for you.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium
● Android | OS 4.1 | Freemium



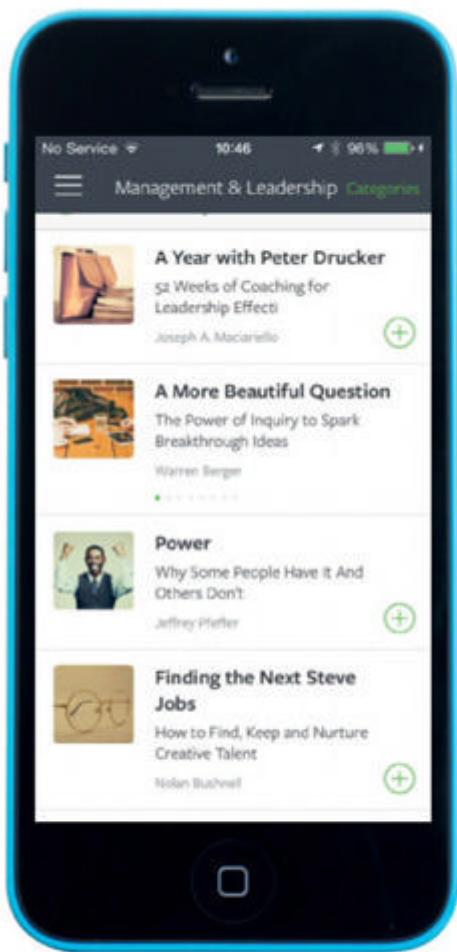
ETERNITY TIME LOG

14:00

Ever get to the end of the day or week and wonder where all the time's gone? This versatile personal time sheet app will help you to keep track and focus on the things that matter. You can define activities in any hierarchy you like and run multiple timers for them. Then review and adjust your logs and analyse the data in interactive charts and detailed hierarchical reports with advanced filters as well.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

“**Blinkist**
delivers
books in
bite-size”



EVENING

XCOM: ENEMY WITHIN 19:15

Playing console-quality games doesn't even require a console these days. There are some amazing conversions for tablets and phones.

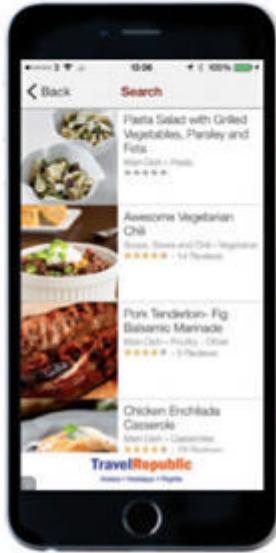
XCOM: Enemy Within is a great example: while it only runs on high-end or more recent devices, it oozes quality in its graphics and depth of gameplay. You'll have hours of fun killing aliens with huge robots.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £9.99/\$12.99 ● Android | OS 4.0 | £10.20/\$12.99

BIGOVEN 18:00

Cook up a tasty dinner with a recipe from *BigOven*'s vast database. A handy Use Up Leftovers feature lets you enter up to three ingredients from your fridge or cupboard to find something to make from them. Alternatively, use the menu planner to plan your meals for the week. *BigOven* is free to use, but an ad-free Pro membership adds custom folders and will provide extra search filters.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium
● Android | Varies | Freemium



APPS FOR A NIGHT OUT

18:30

SWARM

Planning an evening out? This socially focused spin-off from *Foursquare* is a good way to make the arrangements to hook up with friends. It'll tell you who's hanging out nearby, along with any locations they've checked in to and any plans they've made. You can also have an in-app group conversation with mates to make plans.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free
● Android | Varies | Free

19:00

URBANSPOON

If you don't fancy cooking at home and would prefer to dine out, *Urbanspoon* will provide essential information on all the local restaurants (in most major cities), including menus, photos, ratings and reviews. The results can be sorted by distance or popularity in a list or on a map. For some establishments, you can even book a table in-app.

● iPhone | iOS 6.0 | Free
● Android | 4.0.3 | Free

20:00

BAR PASS UK

Fed up with having to queue up at the bar on a night out? *Bar Pass* lets you order drinks – and food – in advance to jump the line. Once notified that your order is ready, you can either collect it from the designated point at the venue or have it delivered to you.

Naturally, it all depends on the venue supporting Bar Pass, but it's a handy service.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free
● Android | OS 2.3 | Free

22:00

SNAPCHAT

While it's fun to take photos on a wild night out, the pictures might well prove embarrassing come the next morning. *Snapchat* lets you share photos (with optional captions) or videos with absent friends which, once viewed, will disappear forever – well, unless they're sneaky enough to take a screenshot! You can also enjoy live video chats.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free
● Android | Varies | Free

23:30

SLEEP BETTER

Once tucked up in bed after a busy day, use *Sleep Better* to analyse your sleep patterns. Place the phone by your pillow, set an optional alarm and in the morning will be a graph of your sleep phases. It also notes factors like alcohol enabling you to see how it affects your sleep.

● iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Freemium
● Android | OS 4.1 | Freemium

BEAMLY 19:45

Slumping on the sofa to watch some television is always a good way to chill out, but it's a lot more fun with *Beamly*.

This second-screen TV app offers a host of official and user-created chat rooms to discuss what's happening in shows in real-time with other viewers. As well as for popular soaps and dramas, it works particularly well for major live sporting and entertainment events, such as the latest big football match or the Eurovision Song Contest. With the ability to follow other users, it's like a social network for avid TV viewers.

Part of this involves you following your favourite shows and stars, Twitter-style, so that you then receive personalised news stories and social feeds. When you set a reminder for a particular show, you can also share it on *Beamly*, Facebook and Twitter to arrange a communal viewing session. There's also a TV guide to help you plan your viewing and ensure you never miss your favourite show.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free
● Android | Varies | Free



Plan your evening's viewing and discuss it live with others

“While XCOM: Enemy Within only runs on high-end or recent devices, it oozes quality in its graphics and depth of gameplay”

AUTOMATE EVERYTHING

MAKE YOUR MOBILE
LIFE EASIER WITH
THESE TOP TOOLS

LEARN HOW
TO AUTOMATE
YOUR CAMERA WITH
IFTTT'S NEW DO
CAMERA ON PAGE

42



IF BY IFTTT

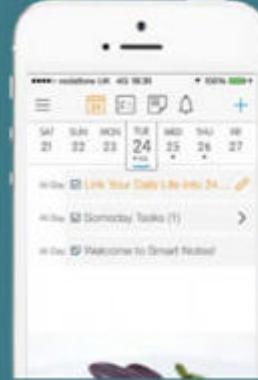
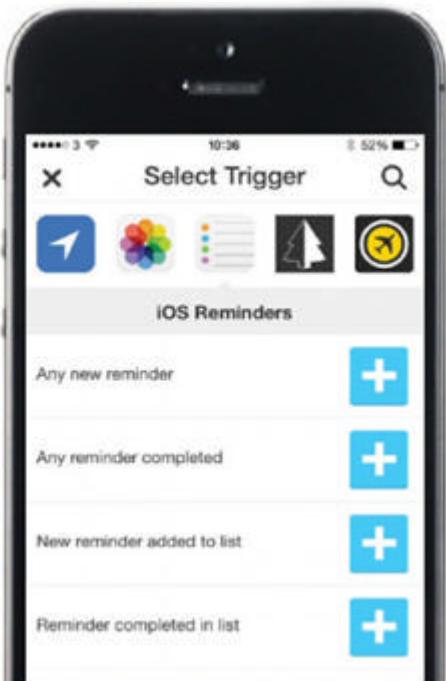


When you think of automation, one app stands head and shoulders above the rest. *IFTTT* enables you to create powerful connections with one straightforward statement. Recently the service has split into several apps, with *Do Camera* and *Do Note* specialising in particular phone features, however *IF* works much the same as the original all-in-one app. You define a trigger (a new photo or a bookmark for example) and an action (like saving to *Dropbox* or adding to *Pocket*) to create a 'recipe'. It's essentially a building platform to automate some of your most popular digital tasks and make the internet work just how you want.

Coupled with thousands of community-made, prebuilt automation recipes, there's plenty of third-party action too, including an iOS location channel that seamlessly integrates with Foursquare, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. This gives users the power to, for example, send a DM to a friend when you arrive at your travel destination. *IF* also works with a range of smart accessories, including the Nest thermostat and Philips Hue lightbulbs.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

● Android | OS 4.0 | Free



24me is a very smart personal assistant

24ME



24me is one of the best productivity apps around, putting everything relating to your schedule (calendars, to-do lists, notes and personal accounts) into one convenient app. It generates daily tasks and events and completes them for you with a button tap. *24me* reminds you about key events just like an actual personal assistant, and auto-completes tasks like bill payments for you!

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free

● Android | OS 4.0 | Free

PHILIPS HUE



The official *Philips Hue* app is the perfect way to control any of your Philips Hue products, which are now widely available from Apple's online store. They don't come cheap, but when accompanied with this app, you can change the lighting in any room wirelessly from your mobile device. It can be practical, but it can be fun too - adjusting the lighting to fit your mood will be commonplace in years to come.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

● Android | OS 2.3

● Free



“You can change the lighting in any room wirelessly from your mobile device”



ACTIONS FOR iPAD

Whether you own a Mac or Windows PC, *Actions for iPad* promises to boost your workflow by transforming your iPad into a smart controller. *Actions* will make sure your most used commands are always to hand - all you need to do is get going is download the *Actions* Remote server to your computer to use it. All your system apps such as Mail or iTunes are supported for use as well as a host of other third-party apps, which are compatible.

● iPad | iOS 5.1 | £0.79/\$0.99

“Actions promises to boost workflows”

NEST MOBILE



This is the mobile hub for your Nest Learning Thermostat and Nest Protect smoke and carbon monoxide alarm, two devices in the home automation market. You can perform basic tasks, like adjusting room temperatures, and get crucial alarms and monthly usage updates.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free

● Android | OS 2.3.3 | Free



REVOLV SMART

Revolv is likely to appeal to a number of people given how many devices it is compatible with, including leading brands Sonos, Nest and Philips Hue. Another great option if you've jumped onboard the home automation bandwagon, enabling you to control your devices from one interface. It's a simple, yet powerful solution for controlling lights, locks, sensors and more.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

● Android | OS 4.1 | Free

WORKFLOW

An app that has received rave reviews from iOS users, *Workflow* is a powerhouse. The possibilities are endless with *Workflow*; there are over 200 actions available that you drag and drop to create a workflow that automates things you do on your device. There's a bustling community of users already, and you can even turn a workflow into a homescreen shortcut.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | £4.99/\$6.99

INSPIRE HOME AUTOMATION

The *Inspire Home Automation* app lets you control your central heating from your smartphone. Now you can tweak settings quickly while you're out and about, ensuring you never come home to a cold house. It'll also gauge how much you're spending if you're concerned about rising energy costs.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free
● Android | OS 2.3.3 | Free

NOTOGRAPHY

Automation apps don't have to be restricted to the productivity category, as *Notography* proves. Given how many photographs mobile users take, editing can be a real chore. *Notography* takes away the hassle by using custom presets to automate postproduction work. Add unlimited elements to your presets to get them just right.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £0.79/\$0.99
● Android | Varies | Free

WEMO

Part of the attraction with Belkin's *WeMo* range of smart devices is how cheap they are in comparison to other brands that offer the same functionality. The *WeMo* app gives you control over many home items like plug sockets, cameras and smart bulbs among many others; you can even use motion detectors to turn a lamp on as you enter the room! Very easy to use.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free

● Android | OS 4.0 | Free

TOP 10 HIT MUSIC APPS

DOWNLOAD THESE
CHART-TOPPERS
AND GET YOUR
GROOVE ON

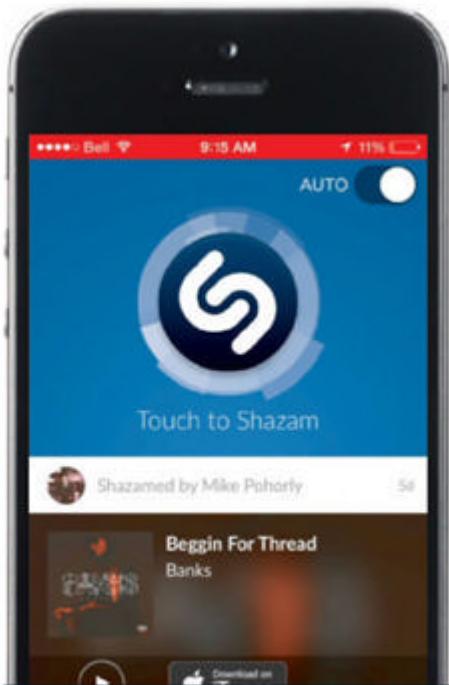


SHAZAM

 In the language of this app, to 'Shazam' something is to identify music from radio, TV and other sources by playing a short segment into your device's microphone. The app then analyses the content and fires back - usually within seconds - the title and links that enable you to preview a longer segment, buy the track from iTunes, Amazon or Google Play (depending on whether you're on iOS or Android) and instantly stream it using Rdio and Spotify. If you log in using Facebook, you can see songs that your friends have searched for and share your Shazams as well. This app will also give you a sense of what people are listening to across the world via a map. When you browse the map you will see *Shazam* lists from numerous countries and charts that show what is trending locally and globally. One of the best features, though, is 'Auto Shazam'. This setting in the iOS version keeps the app running in the background so that when you have your phone in your pocket at a club or next to your radio or television, you can automatically detect the titles of songs that catch your ear.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium

● Android | Varies | Free



OXFORD DICTIONARY OF MUSIC

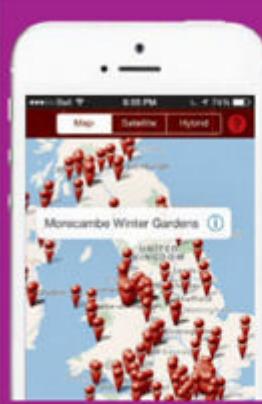
This app is a must-have for students of classical music. It has over 12,000 entries on topics like the titles of famous pieces and musical terminology. It's easy to search and you can flag favourites too.

- iPhone+ | iOS 6.1 | £7.99/\$9.99
- Android | OS 2.2 | £6.43/\$9.99

BEATWAVE

 Few apps make it as easy to compose your own electronic music as *Beatwave* does. Starting with a series of grids, you can then add beats by selecting squares. These beats are looped automatically and you can then mix things up by adding instruments and varying the position of the squares or the speed, pitch, volume and style while recording the results.

- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium



ROCKING ALL OVER THE WORLD

 This app shows essential landmarks in rock and pop history as pins on a world map that can be centred on your location or browsed by swiping. You can also search for locations by name or performer. Tapping on a pin brings up a brief account of that location's significance. You can also add pins when you visit places that you want other users to hear about.

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.1 | Free

Read all about the Winter Gardens and other notable locations' music history

SONGKICK CONCERTS

 There's no substitute for seeing music live and this app should ensure that you don't miss a beat. Save the performers you want to see by letting the app scan your music library or by using Search. It will then list tour dates and venues with maps and links to ticket sellers. You can also get notified of concert dates in your area and reminders about upcoming gigs.

● iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Free

● Android | OS 2.2 | Free



"Save the performers you want to see by letting Songkick scan your music library"



MUSIXMATCH

 How often do you find yourself singing a song and suddenly realise you don't actually know the words? This app solves that problem. It can access and play music from other apps on your device and displays current and upcoming lyrics in real-time. You can also discover trending songs and watch music videos with lyrics by searching for tracks by keyword or artist.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium

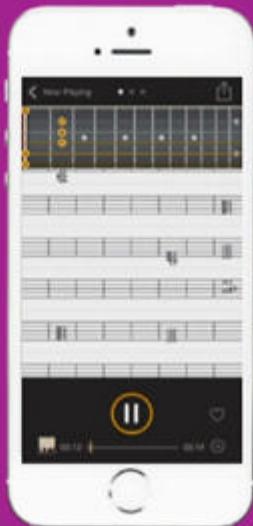
● Android | OS 2.3 | Freemium

"This app displays lyrics in real-time"

JAMN PLAYER

 This stylish and easy-to-navigate app will show you how to play the songs that are in your music library or other popular tracks on a guitar, ukulele or piano. It analyses any song that you select and then displays the chords and key in real-time as the track is playing. Playback can be at full speed or slowed down in case you find it hard to keep up.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | Free



THIS DAY IN MUSIC

 This app is packed with trivia that will give music aficionados something to reminisce about. For every day of the year it has some brief descriptions of major events in music history, some that even date back to the Fifties. You can also look up which musicians share your birthday for bragging rights and browse music trivia before testing your knowledge in a quiz.

● iPhone+ | iOS 3.1 | £2.29/\$2.99

● Android | OS 2.3 | Free

WHOSAMPLED

 Want to know where your favourite songs have been sampled or what clip you just heard in a remix? This app will return a list of tracks that are sampled in songs in your music library or that you've searched for along with any remixes of your songs. Often the results will be linked to YouTube videos so you can also watch what you found.

● iPhone+ | iOS 4.3 | £2.29/\$2.99

● Android | OS 2.3 | Free

MOSHCAM

 This app makes it easy to find videos of live performances in a wide range of popular musical genres including rock, metal, indie and hip-hop. Inevitably some major artists are missing and the app has a habit of crashing intermittently but fortunately, if you are a big fan of live music, it will be a long time before you get bored and exhaust everything it has on its line-up.

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.0 | Free

● Android | OS 2.2 | Free

AMAZING INTERACTIVE STORIES

LOSE YOURSELF BETWEEN THE DIGITAL PAGES OF THESE ENROSSING EBOOKS

MONSTER'S SOCKS

 *Monster's Socks* gives as much attention to the interactive elements of the experience as the storytelling. The reader helps the (not-so-scary) monster work his way through the book and explore the finely crafted world that the developers and artists have created – the reader is essential in driving the narrative. Impressive quality in every area, interactions are smooth and intuitively handled too.

★★★★★
 ● iPad+ | iOS 5.1.1
 | £2.29/\$2.99 | v1.07
 ● Android | OS 2.2
 | £1.98/\$3.00 | v1.0



SHERLOCK: INTERACTIVE ADVENTURE

 The best interactive books take you beyond the storyline into a completely realised world barely distinguishable from fully fledged apps. That's the case with *Sherlock*, which gives you a real sense of Victorian London thanks to its immersive graphics. Get busy sleuthing and lose yourself in an expertly designed interactive world.

★★★★★
 ● iPad+ | iOS 6.0
 | Premium | v1.5

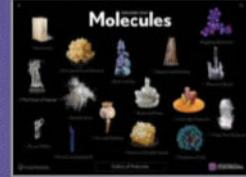


MOLECULES BY THEODORE GRAY

 A real treat for anyone interested in their chemistry, *Molecules* is the follow up to Theodore Gray's hugely successful *Elements* app. It lets you get up close and interactive with the science that makes up the world around us, and Gray's enthusiasm for his topic really shines off the (electronic) pages.

Anyone who wants to learn more about science and chemistry will love this app.

★★★★★
 ● iPad+ | iOS 7.1
 | £10.49/\$13.99 | v1.1.0



THIS TOO SHALL PASS

 Another older title but don't hold that against it: this wise and beautifully told tale looks like it's been produced by a movie studio, and provides plenty of entertainment as it plays around with the idea of what an interactive ebook should be. The story itself is of a disenchanted king searching for truth.

As parts eBook, graphic novel, and film, you need to set aside some time to explore this app.

★★★★★
 ● iPad | iOS 6.0
 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.1

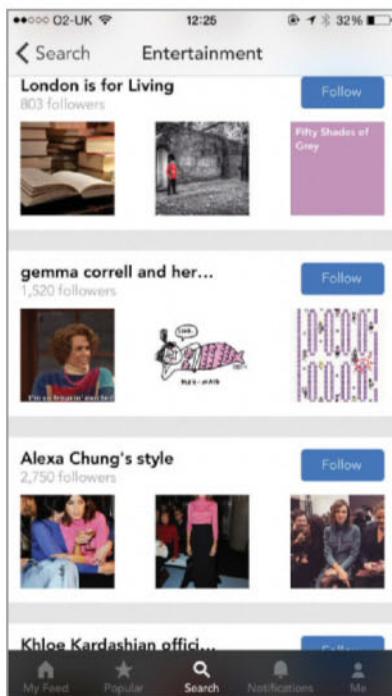


THE FANTASTIC FLYING BOOKS OF MR. MORRIS LESSMORE

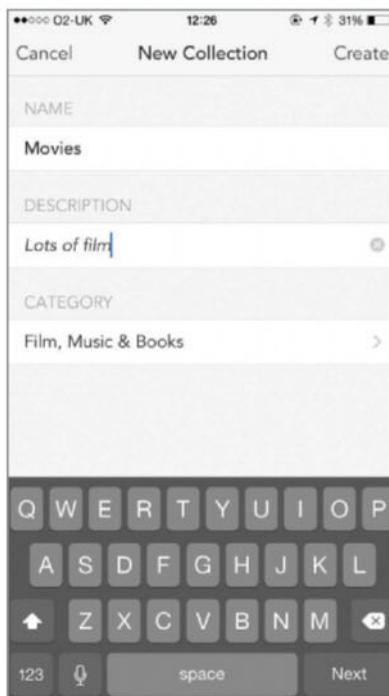
 This is a gorgeously drawn, richly engaging piece of work that is part picture book and part Pixar-style animated movie, that will delight kids and adults alike. A wonderful app suitable for all ages with treasures throughout.

★★★★★
 ● iPad | iOS 5.1
 | \$4.99/£3.99
 | v1.4

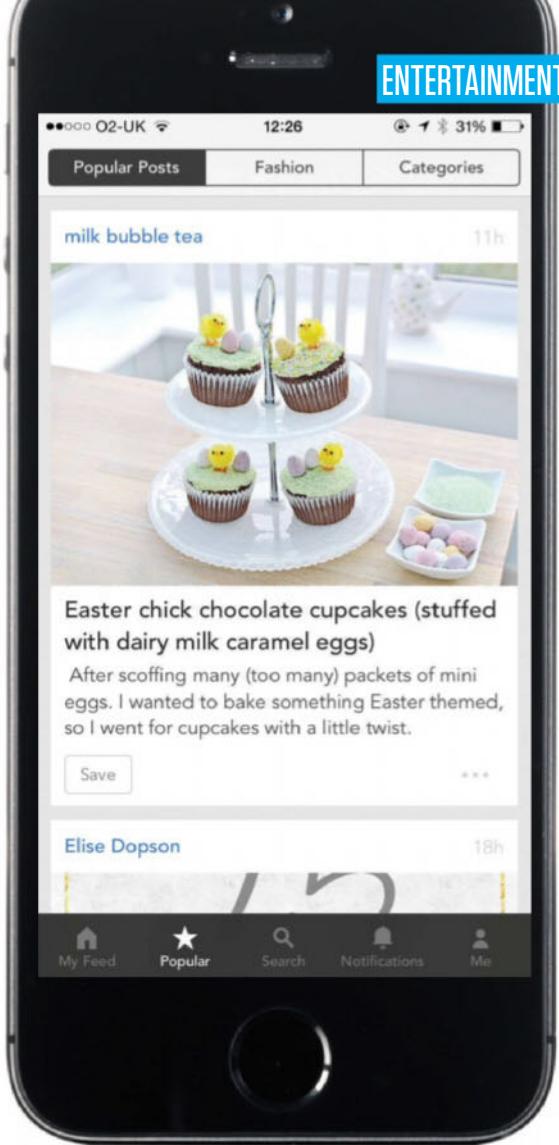




Above Entertainment pushes a young agenda with celebrity and style blogs



Above Select a category and input some information for a new collection



BLOGLOVIN'

READ THE LATEST BLOGS AND DISCOVER NEW CONTENT

PROS/CONS

- ▲ A beautiful, clean design putting content first
- ▲ You can embark on a voyage of discovery
- ▼ The categories presented to you may not suit your needs
- ▼ You cannot simply input all of your favourite blogs



When *Google Reader* was axed - a casualty

of one of the search engine giant's more controversial cuts - numerous apps attempted to fill the void. *Bloglovin'* was one of them, an offering that relied more on discovery than on letting you input your own RSS feeds. That aspect still remains, but the app now looks better than ever thanks to a smart refresh and the addition of a new feature called Collections.

It makes a big difference. One of the fundamental aspects of *Bloglovin'* has been its ability to let you browse and save pages but this would give you a mass of disjointed articles. Collections enables you to put those pieces into folders, letting you build your own library of interesting reads and ensuring they are well-categorised too.

The main issue, though, is that the categories recommended by *Bloglovin'* will not be to everyone's taste. Clicking on Popular, for instance, shows the app's true intention: it has a tab for Categories and one specifically for Fashion. There is no doubt that this is an app for people

who are primarily into art, beauty, design, fashion, lifestyle, food and drink. If you are into technology, gaming, sci-fi and so on, you have to do some extra digging via the search function and hope that the blog you enjoy reading is there.

Get into the app and find those feeds, however, and the experience is a rewarding one. The clean interface with its well-defined sections running along the bottom make light work of reading through your own feed while letting you find what is most popular and read your notifications. Each article fits well within the browser they can be saved and shared via social media. For those who do not want all of the finicky aspects often associated with readers, it's perfect.

Smart, straight-forward and with content at the forefront, if you match its demographic you'll love it.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v3.2.2

<http://bit.ly/bloglovinios>

● Android | OS 3.0 | Free | v2.16

<http://bit.ly/bloglovinand>

ALTERNATIVELY

Five great RSS readers for your mobile device

FAAST: THE REAL-TIME PUSH NOTIFICATION APP

 As well as letting you input RSS feeds, *Faast* delivers real-time notifications ensuring you never miss a trick. The app is free for two weeks only though.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v1.3.3

RECONNAISSANCE – RSS TRIAGE FOR FEED WRANGLER

 If you have an account with *Feed Wrangler*, then *Reconnaissance's* fluid interface enables you to get around your synced RSS feeds with the use of gestures.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £0.79/\$0.99 | v2.6

FEED YOUR RSS NEWS READER

 You can add any RSS feed to this app which ensures it caters well for your interests. It covers everything from news to YouTube.



● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free | v25.0.0

● Android | OS 2.3 | Free | v25.0.6

FEED WRANGLER

 The official *Feed Wrangler* app lets you create smart streams for personalisation and search for articles. It's a little old-fashioned in looks, but still has plenty of stories to read through.



● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Freemium | v1.2.1

FLIPBOARD: YOUR SOCIAL NEWS MAGAZINE

 *Flipboard* turns your news feeds in to a brilliant gesture-controlled magazine ensuring that every article sparkles.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v3.1.4

● Android | Varies | Free | Varies

VIMO - VIDEO + MOTION STICKER

STICK STICKERS ON YOUR VIDEOS AND GET NOTICED

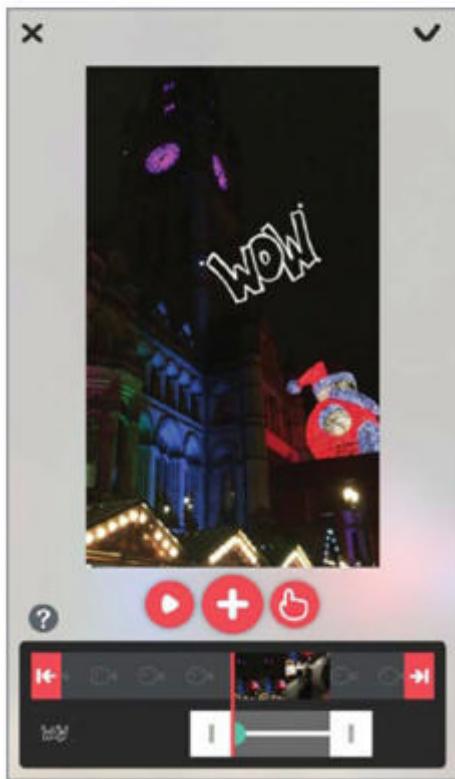


Many app developers want a slice of the social media market and it would appear that those behind *Vimo* are no exception. They have produced an app which enables users to add fun stickers to their videos before sharing them via Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Vimeo. The unique selling point is that *Vimo*'s stickers can move in line with the videos.

Users are able to place stickers over the top of any previously saved or freshly taken video, with the ability to select a specific point within the film. You can have up to two stickers at any one time for free. If you want to have more than two at once, or if you would like an expanded set of stickers, then you need to start splashing the cash on in-app purchases.

Once the stickers are in place and rotated and resized to suit, there is a function which lets the video play while the sticker is being manipulated. A fresh video is then recorded, ready for sharing, but it can also be edited if it is not quite right.

What makes this app stand out is its straightforward, intuitive interface, which



There are loads of stickers to choose from in various categories, and can be coloured to suit



Left
Stickers can be resized and rotated. The timeline makes it clear where it will be placed

produces stunning cartoon-like effects in next to no time. The only downside is that it is perhaps too easy to use and that we can see many a news feed may end up being clogged with the resulting efforts, and thus lessening the app's impact.

A playful video sticker app with a twist, *Vimo* will brighten up and energise even the dullest of videos.



● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Freemium | v1.0.6
<http://bit.ly/vimios>

ACAST THE PODCAST STREAMER THAT ALSO OFFERS EYE-CATCHING EXTRAS



Podcasts are as popular today as they have ever been, thanks to *Serial* which has not only broadcast compelling true crime story but accompanied it with a website packed with maps and documents that bring its story to life.

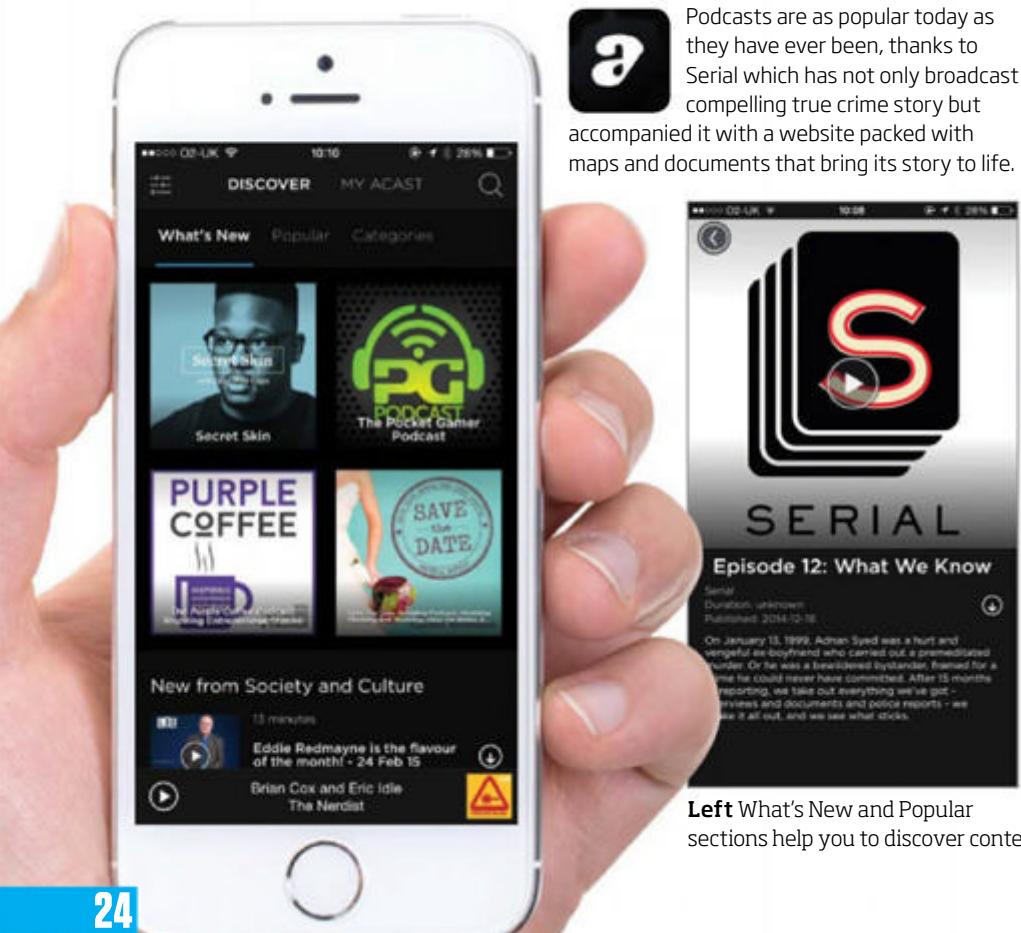
Acast takes a similar approach to podcasting by enhancing the listening experience with what it calls "bling". As you listen, the app calls up images, links and videos relating to what is being said, alerting you to on-screen content via a little 'pop' noise. As you engage with the content, the podcast continues to play in the background, the idea being that the experience becomes multidimensional.

In principle, it is a great idea but a big problem is that the content isn't always as compelling as it perhaps should be. There are some awful low-res images and links which underwhelm. This is a shame because otherwise the app is solid, slick and good-looking. It's a great way to find new podcasts, it lets you continue where you left off, updates on the podcasts you follow and incorporates a sleep timer for those late-night nod-off sessions. As podcast producers get to grips with the possibilities, though, *Acast* will surely be a serious contender.

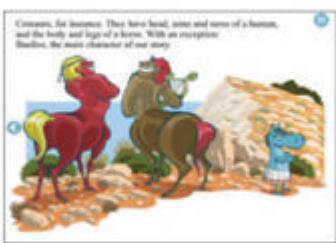
***Acast* wants to revolutionise podcasting and it succeeds to a point, it just needs more time to settle.**



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.0.9
<http://bit.ly/acastios>
● Android | OS 4.1 | Free | v1.0.6
<http://bit.ly/acastand>



Left What's New and Popular sections help you to discover content

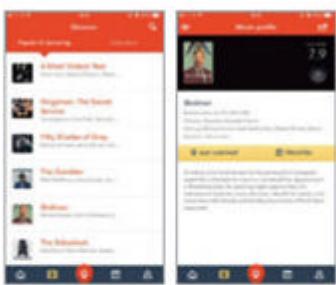


BASILEO

 Greek mythology is hardly a topic that you would associate with children, but *Basileo* by developer MakeltApp somehow manages to explain, what are often, quite bizarre concepts in a way that even young children will understand. The imagery is beautiful and there is just enough text used to explain, but not overrun the interface. Not content to stop there, the app also includes a variety of games, multiple language support and friendly audio narration.

Apps
★★★★★
FIVESTAR AWARD
A brilliantly inventive way of teaching Greek mythology.
★★★★★

● iPad | iOS 8.0
| £2.29/\$2.99 | v1.1

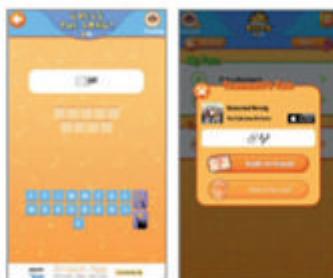


PLOT

 *Plot* is designed to ensure that you do not miss movies that you intend to watch. It features an extremely capable design which is perfect for the subject and lets you enter new titles and share them with others instantly. The discovery mode is excellent and so is the ability to read reviews of movies from friends, and if it becomes popular it will be even more useful. It's early days for the app, but it is already looking very good.

A well designed and feature-rich app which will be perfect for movie buffs.

★★★★★
● iPhone | iOS 7.0
| £1.49/\$1.99 | v1.0.4



EMOJI STARS

 *Emoji Stars* takes features from other popular multiplayer games such as emojis, guesswork and immediate feedback to create an experience that will suit those who have a keen interest in all types of music. You really do need to know your stuff to succeed though, because it can be a frustrating game otherwise. Look at the emojis and the available letters to guess the song. It sounds easy doesn't it? Well, it really isn't.

A rewarding game which will suit those of you with a deep music knowledge.

★★★★★
● iPad+ | iOS 7.0
| Freemium | v1.0.2



POSTSECRET UNIVERSE

 *PostSecret Universe* is a highly original title that lets you explore the world and discover secrets that are all around us. You get to find new things through connections and themes, and in the early stages it feels very real indeed. Few apps are able to offer this emotion, but it's apparent here. The main downside is that it can be difficult to understand and you can run out of things to discover quite quickly.

An original real-world adventure awaits you, but the experience can be limiting.

★★★★★
● iPad+ | iOS 7.1
| £5.99/\$7.99 | v1.0



LUKA AND HIS CHINESE FRIENDS

 This travelling game will let young children meet new virtual friends and understand more about the world around them in a fun, engaging way, and in this case it's of China. The app provides quick and simple activities and gradually builds up the experience, which is underpinned by friendly narration and colourful graphics. It is quite a short game, but what is included here is of excellent quality.

Fun, colourful and most importantly educational. A very friendly children's app.

★★★★★
● iPad+ | iOS 4.0
| £0.69/\$0.99 | v1.0
● Android | OS 2.3
| £1.40/\$2.12 | v1.0



TOP 05 apps to...

LEARN MAGIC TRICKS



01 MAGIC TRICKS PRO

 This app has a bunch of cool tricks, each one helpfully explained with the aid of clear, concise and well-produced videos.

★★★★★
● iPhone+ | iOS 5.0 | Freemium | v1.4

02 iFORCE

 If mentalism is more your bag, then *iForce* is the app for you. Ask someone to think of an item, then flip your phone and stun them by showing them your amazingly correct prediction.

★★★★★
● iPhone | iOS 4.3
| £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.5.2
● Android | OS 2.0
| £3.20/\$4.99 | v1.03

03 MARTY'S MAGIC COIN

 By rubbing a coin on your phone you can make it look as if it has appeared by magic on its screen. It only takes a few minutes to learn too.

★★★★★
● iPhone | iOS 6.0
| £2.29/\$2.99 | v2.1

04 CARD2PHONE - MAGIC TRICK

 Take a card, any card. Fold it up and slot it inside your phone or tablet. David Blaine is said to have endorsed this trick and the result does look pretty snazzy when performed in front of people.

★★★★★
● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1
| £3.99/\$4.99 | v4.0.4

05 CARD TRICKS PRO

 Card tricks never go out of fashion and with this brilliant collection of tutorial videos, it will be easy to amaze your friends by learning a good many of them.

★★★★★
● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v1.7



THE BEST MONEY TRANSFER APPS

GET YOUR CASH FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER WITH MINIMUM FUSS

SQUARE CASH

 Square Cash is only available in the US right now – so if you're anywhere else you're out of luck. However the app is gaining enough momentum to be worth looking out for no matter where you live in the world. The beauty of the app lies in its simplicity and the ease with which you can transfer money, safely and securely once you have linked your debit card.

Only available in the US right now but is an up-and-coming star.



★★★★★ iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

★★★★★ Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free

TRANSFERWISE MONEY TRANSFER

 From a team of ex-Skype developers, TransferWise Money Transfer takes a 0.5 per cent cut of any cross-border transaction you make – but you'll find that's probably a lot cheaper than the tax levied by your bank. Setup is simple, the menus are clear and straightforward, and you can even earn money by recommending it to friends.

If you need to send money to a foreign country then this is one of the best ways to do it.

★★★★★ iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free
★★★★★ Android | OS 2.3 | Free

BARCLAYS PINGIT

 You don't have to bank with Barclays to use its tidy-looking app – you just need a mobile phone number which will act as your identity. Setting a connection to your bank account isn't too difficult either (Barclays deposits a penny with a special code to prove that it's actually yours) and then you can send money to friends, buy gifts, pay bills and more.

Whether or not you're actually a Barclays customer, Pingit is smooth and intuitive for everyday banking transfers.

★★★★★ iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free
★★★★★ Android | OS 2.2 | Free

WORLDREMIT

 Particularly suitable for sending money between countries, the WorldRemit app takes a small percentage of the transfer amount as a fee – don't be put off though as this is much less than many comparable services. It's quick to get up and running, simple to use, and carefully secured, so just about everything you could ask for from a mobile payments app on your device.

Use credit or debit cards or your bank to send money to other countries cheaply.

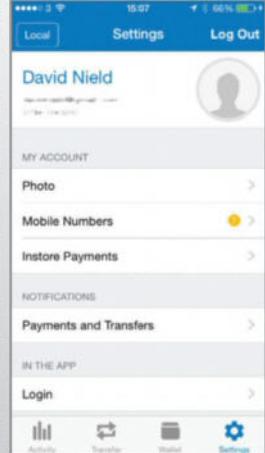
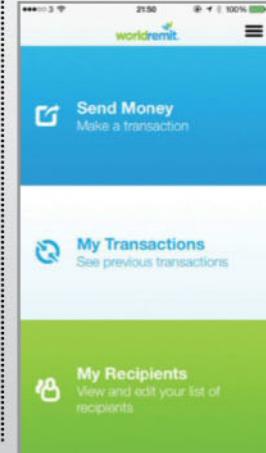
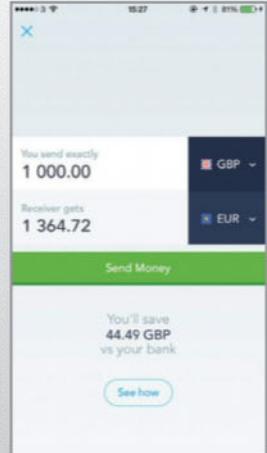
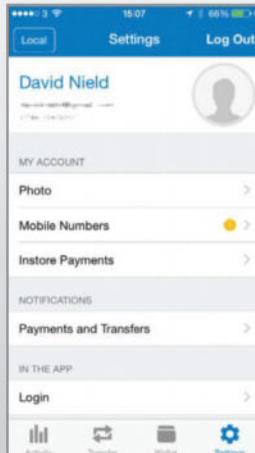
★★★★★ iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free
★★★★★ Android | Varies | Free

PAYPAL

 PayPal isn't the most well-loved company in the world, but its app is certainly impressive. You can send money over email, plug it straight into your bank accounts, and use it with a broad range of online retailers. The platform grows with you too as it provides business-level services if you actually need those kind of extra facilities.

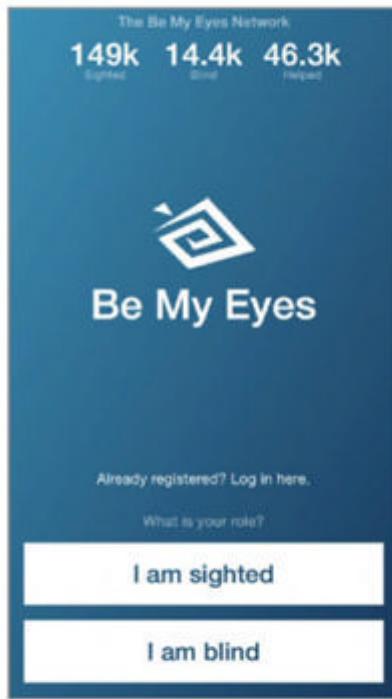
The veteran in the game is hard to beat for features and comprehensiveness.

★★★★★ iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | Free
★★★★★ Android | OS 2.3.3 | Free





Above The demo video extols the virtues of the app



Above Getting started with *Be My Eyes* is quick and straightforward

BE MY EYES

THE SIGHTED LEADING THE WAY FOR THE BLIND

PROS/CONS

- ▲ Great idea underpinning the app
- ▲ Smooth sign-up process only takes minutes
- ▼ Seems to be a long time between calls
- ▼ App is too simple and uninformative

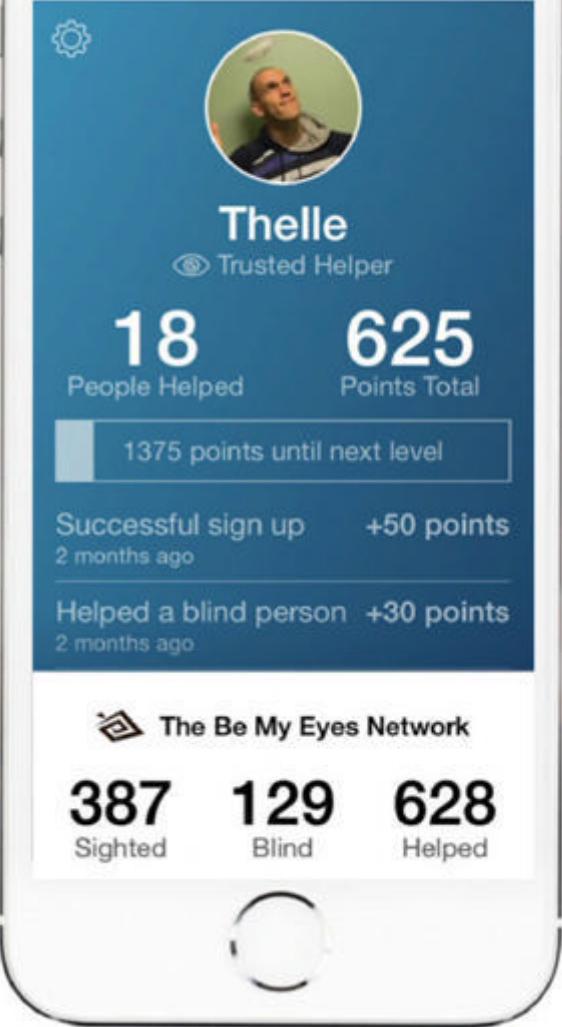


The idea behind *Be My Eyes* is a simple one. If you're blind, you can get help from a sighted volunteer over your smartphone; if you're one of those volunteers, you can donate as much or as little of your time as you like and wait until someone needs assistance.

That assistance could be anything from identifying what's in a tin of food to guiding someone through a department store. When you lend your eyes to someone in need, a live video connection is established, and you take it from there – as you help more and more people, you can build up points and your *Be My Eyes* reputation.

The only problem is, we have no idea if it works in practice. Despite spending a week with the app, we were never called upon to help anyone out, and if you read through the reviews that have been left for *Be My Eyes*, it seems to be a common problem.

The app's real-time statistics say 15,300 blind users and 155,000 sighted users have registered, and help has been



given 50,500 times through the service – so someone somewhere must be making use of it. It's possible that there's a hardcore of very active sighted users with high ratings who the app turns to first.

We can't therefore comment on the quality of the video connection or the ease with which you can assist someone else (or indeed get assistance), but the premise is sound.

On the downside, the app is sparse and intimidating. There's no indication if you're likely to be called any time soon, but if you are asked to give assistance then there's no obligation to do so – if you're busy the app will just move on.

Be My Eyes is a great idea, and with some tidying up of the app it has a chance to make a real difference.

A great idea in theory and people are making use of it, but we're just not sure about how *Be My Eyes* actually works in practice.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.4

<http://bit.ly/bemyeyesios>

ALTERNATIVELY

Five other helpful apps for the partially sighted and blind

01 TAPTAPESE

 A camera app for the hard-of-seeing that can identify commonly used objects put in front of it, and can be controlled by voice input as well.



● iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v3.0.1
● Android | Varies | Freemium | Varies

02 MBRAILLE

 MBraille is a straightforward touch-enabled braille keyboard for your smartphone, enabling blind users to send tweets, text messages and more.



● iPhone+ | iOS 6.1 | Freemium | v1.9.3
● Android | iOS 4.1 | Freemium | v1.5.1

03 LIGHT DETECTOR

 Light Detector reacts to artificial and natural light with different sounds, so a visually impaired person can check if any lights have been left on.



● iPhone | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v1.3
● Android | iOS 4.0.3 | Free | v1.2.1

04 COLOR SAY

 "Hear the world in colour" is the promise of ColorSay and it does just that: it uses your phone's camera to read out the colours that the app is seeing in front of you.



● iPhone+ | iOS 5.1.1 | £2.49/\$2.99 | v1.80
● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free | v1.1

05 POCKET READER

 Lets users point their camera at a document and then hear the words on the page read out to them, using the power of VoiceOver in iOS. The audio is also stored for listening to later.



● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free | v1.1



Above With *Alfred Remote*, you can connect to your Mac via Wi-Fi

Left You can instantly launch applications too

Below Access settings on the fly



only does them after you've shelled out £17 to upgrade your basic version of *Alfred*.

That seems like a fair price to pay to gain the ability to pause, plan, and skip some songs, right?

Well, when you consider that the app alone costs £3.99, meaning you're really being asked to pay £20.99 to unlock *Alfred Remote*'s true potential, no, we'd be willing to put our neck on the line and say it really, really isn't.

Unless you're already using a pumped up version *Alfred*, you're just not going to get your money's worth right now. We're sure the folks over at Running With will improve *Alfred Remote* in the future, but until then, hang tight to the current iteration.

An interesting novelty that might one day become essential to Mac users.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.1 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.0
<http://bit.ly/alfredremotetios>

ALFRED REMOTE

A MOBILE MAC COMMAND CENTRE

PROS/CONS

- ▲ Smooth start - Alfred Remote works from the word 'go'
- ▲ Instant gratification as it launches apps instantly at the touch of a button
- ▼ Novelty factor. It's hard to see how Alfred Remote will increase productivity in the long-run
- ▼ To make the most of Alfred Remote users will need to spend \$17 on a power pack



Running With's *Alfred Remote*, pitched as the 'perfect day-long companion' to any Mac running *Alfred 2* - the developer's award-winning productivity tool, is probably better described as the perfect hour-long distraction.

That's not me trying to find a snarky way to poke fun at Running With's new app, it's just that, upon closer inspection, it's hard to ignore the fact that while *Alfred Remote* is a functional piece of software, it doesn't really do all that much.

Sure, it lets you launch apps with a single touch, giving you the ability to open files, folders, websites without ever using your mouse. Yes it also puts a bevy of system commands at your fingertips giving you some control and meaning that you can, among other things, lock, restart, and shut down your device even if you're not in the same room as your trusty Mac.

But honestly though, once you start using *Alfred Remote* you'll soon realise that it actually takes longer to do those things remotely: a pretty incredulous flaw considering the app is designed to be a time-saver.

Now, *Alfred 2* users who've installed the power pack might point out that *Alfred Remote* also enables you to control iTunes, run user-defined scripts, and connect to workflows. True, it does indeed do all of those things, but it

ALTERNATIVELY

Improve efficiency and tackle your work head-on with these apps...

01 NOTES PLUS

 **Notes Plus** is a powerful note-taking tool that supports handwriting, typing, audio recording and document annotation. Special features include beautiful ink effects and Dropbox support.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £7.99/\$9.99 | v4.6

02 SKITCH

 See something that sparks an idea? Take a picture of it with your camera, then annotate it with *Skitch*'s simple drawing tools, and send it on in an instant.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v3.3
● Android | Varies | Freemium | Varies

03 PRINTER PRO

 **Printer Pro** prints attachments, documents, and more right from your iPad. Works over Wi-Fi, but can also print to USB printers if your PC runs the desktop app.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £4.99/\$6.99 | v5.3
● Android | Varies | Freemium | Varies

04 PAGES

 Apple's answer to Microsoft Word allows you to create gorgeous reports, CVs and documents in minutes. The mobile version syncs with desktop via your iCloud account.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 8.0 | £7.99/\$9.99 | v2.5.2
● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | £7.99/\$9.99 | v2.5.2

05 KEYNOTE

 Built from the ground up for iOS, *Keynote* makes creating a world-class presentation as simple as tapping a screen. Also syncs with your Mac via iCloud.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 8.0 | £7.99/\$9.99 | v2.5.2

HYDRA – AMAZING PHOTOGRAPHY

BOOST YOUR CAMERA'S RESOLUTION UP TO 32 MEGAPIXELS



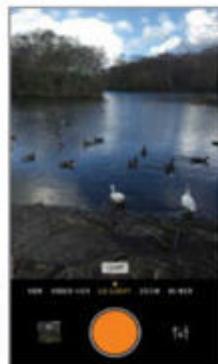
Hydra's big claim is that it can produce images which are four times the resolution of the iPhone or iPad's eight-megapixel sensor.

This means it should be able to boast a high resolution of up to 32-megapixels. It does this, the developer says, by merging up to 60 individual images into a single picture, drawing in extra light.

In reality, those claims are not far off. The app has numerous modes, from HDR to lo-light, zoom and hi-res. The high resolution images will give you the finest detail, but the other modes will get you around other issues ranging from a lack of light (amplifying it ten times) to ineffective zooming (scaling two or four times the standard). HDR images, in particular, look amazing and, if you have an iPhone 6 or 6 Plus, you can take advantage of Video HDR.

As you'd expect, taking images is as straightforward as choosing a mode before pointing and clicking although there are some quality settings you can fiddle with such as choosing resolutions. But while the app

Left HDR shots really shine, providing lovely effects after the shutter button is pressed



Above Hydra is effective when taking photos in low light



Above The app will snap many times to get a perfect hi-res shot

appears to cope admirably when there is no motion, as soon as something moves, problems creep in. Images can start to look sludgy and poor when compared to the built-in app. In low-light, however, it truly excels, bringing fine detail into the spotlight.

Doesn't work well for kinetic action shots, but snap a still image in low light and you'll certainly be astonished by the results.



● iPhone | iOS 8.1 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.0.1
<http://bit.ly/hydraphotoios>

WHERE CHEFS EAT

RICH TASTE IN FOOD? YOU MAY NEED A BIGGER WALLET

WHERE CHEFS EAT
There are two main choices when it comes to eating out: the familiarity of a chain restaurant or somewhere rather more unique, whether its a hole in the wall or an eatery backed by a recognisable chef. *Where Chefs Eat* serves up the latter, with recommendations from more than 600 leading cooks.

Although it's an expensive app which caters for the very best (read, costly) restaurants there is no doubt it is easy to use. The main

page is split into three main sections: Where, Chefs and Eat. Where allows for a manual search, letting you narrow locations down to city. Chefs gives a bio of each food expert and a list of their eateries, and Eat lists every recommendation in alphabetical order. The app can also use your location for faster results.

The results can be filtered according to region, cuisine type, price and the highly tipped, and you can view restaurants according to the kind of meal you want (from breakfast to high end, to the most quirky). When you find a restaurant, you get full details including whether credit cards can be used, a phone number and the opening hours. These can be shared via social media, SMS or email. The reviews could do with being longer than a few words but this is an app to savour.

Expensive and high-end, *Where Chefs Eat* is nevertheless a great pocket resource for a special culinary treat.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £10.99/\$14.99 | v1.0
<http://bit.ly/wherchefsateios>



Above Results can be extensively filtered to suit your taste



Above The app is costly but is packed with information



Right Each listing is comprehensive, giving you all the details you need for a booking

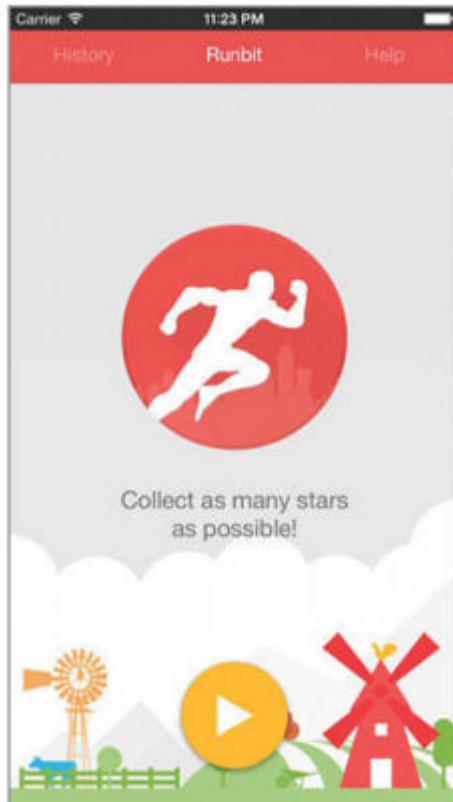
RUNBIT

GET FIT WHILE CHASING STARS



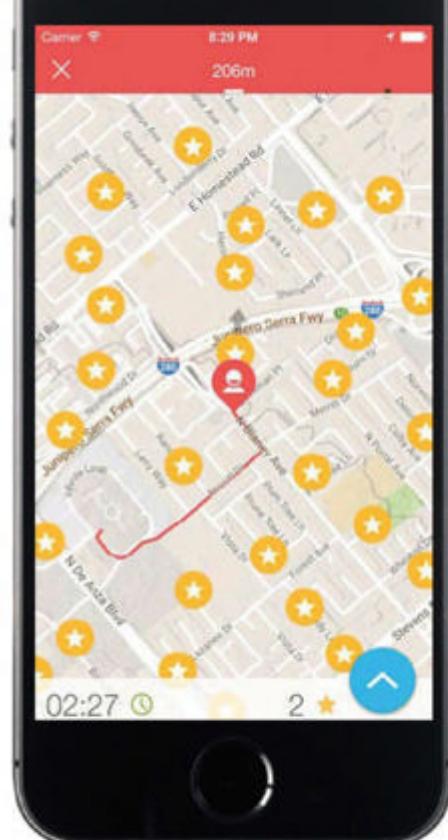
There are plenty of fitness apps on the market nowadays but *Runbit* offers something different. Rather than focusing on calories and performance, *Runbit* takes you back to a simpler time when exercise was actually fun. There is no drawn out registration process so it's a great training tool for newbies and running experts alike. Once you are ready to head out for a cycle, run or stroll, the app generates stars on a map in your vicinity. It is then up to you to take your preferred route, with elapsed activity times too of course, in your quest to collect as many stars as possible - think real-life *Super Mario Brothers* without the need to take down your enemies (unless you are that way inclined).

The easy-to-use app is a great option for anyone who is struggling for motivation to get exercising or looking for a change and wanting to vary their usual exercise routes. Although, the app is better suited to walking as the need to check the map regularly for stars can slow you down and be a bit of a nuisance when you are running or just moving at speed in other forms of physical activities.



Above Explore new routes and collect stars

Records of your star-hunting forays cannot be shared with friends, which is disappointing as the social aspect of these apps is often what ensures their longevity. However, *Runbit* isn't claiming to be an all-conquering app for all of your fitness needs and it succeeds in providing some light-relief from the daily exercise grind.



Reach for the stars with this easy-to-use training app.

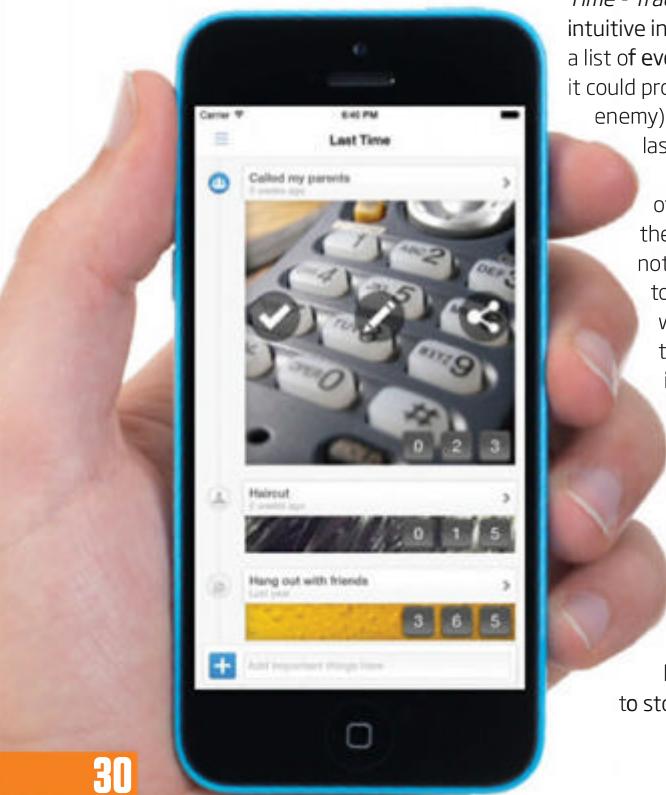


● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.6
<http://bit.ly/runbitios>

● Android | OS 2.2 | Free | v4.1
<http://bit.ly/runbitand>

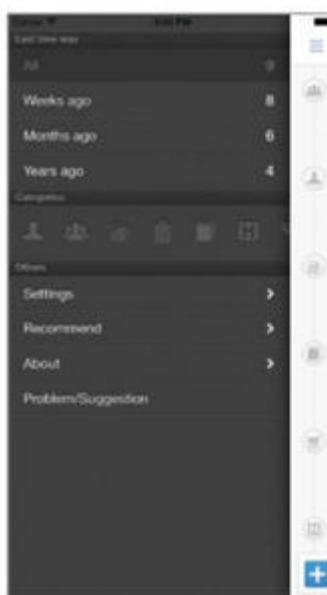
LAST TIME

RECALL THOSE IMPORTANT EVERYDAY EVENTS



 When was the last time you called your mum? When did you last get some exercise? These nagging questions can be answered by *Last Time - Track Your Important Events*. The app's intuitive interface provides a platform to make a list of everyday tasks that slip your mind and it could prove to be a great ally (or your worst enemy) when your partner asks when you last bought them flowers...

A handy tutorial provides a grasp of the basics once you have installed the app, and from there you can take note of whatever life events you see fit to record. The app can be customised with pictures to make it easier on the eye, while you can view your list in terms of categories of items or simply alphabetically. A history of each task is recorded and the app is able to predict when you will next need to complete that task. Rather than nag you to get back on the exercise bike or to call your mum, the app informs you how long has passed since you last did those things. It can even be a handy tool for those of us who need to stop or quit something, like smoking.



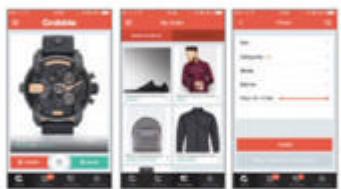
Left Sort essential tasks by the timeframe that they need to be finished by

Last Time isn't an app to badger the more forgetful of us when to complete tasks - that is what our diaries are for - but it is a great tool for checking back on those events we struggle to keep track of. Now, when did I last change my toothbrush...?

Keep track of important tasks without getting inundated and frustrated with constant reminders.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v2.0.0
<http://bit.ly/lasttimeios>



GRABBLE: THE FASHION FINDER



Grabble lets you grab any item from watches to shirts and to then buy whatever

you see straight from within the app. This is not a new concept, but it's great at recommending potential new purchases and this is because it understands your style from your choices, and in our tests we found many garments which fit our tastes perfectly. If you're running out of outfit ideas, there are trends from *Grabble* stylists to get inspired by. It's a clever app-based shopping experience.

A personal shopper in your pocket. *Grabble* is an inspired app for fashion lovers.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.8
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v1.3



FLOOD RISK FINDER



Great apps need two things to excel—obvious design and a practical use, and

Flood Risk Finder has both. All you have to do is enter your address or use your location, and it will tell you what risk level your property falls under. The design is incredibly simple and the accuracy of the results is just what you would like to see. It's perfect and very useful for anyone who think they may be moving onto a flood plain.



A superb app for finding out your property's flood risk.



● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0
| £0.79/\$0.99 | v1.0
● Android | OS 4.0
| £0.79/\$1.18 | v1.0



CODY



We can't complain about the quality of the exercises contained within *Cody* or how they work. Stream them to your TV, follow the instructions from top coaches and then share your progress with friends any time. It works beautifully, but you will have to pay for a range of exercises and the costs may be too high for some. There is still, however, value here.

For those who are serious about exercise, this a clever and expensive solution.



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0
| Freemium | v3.1
● Android | Varies
| Freemium | Varies



STORE THINGS IN



01 POCKET: SAVE ARTICLES AND VIDEOS



Spot an article you like online, tap share and save it. If you have *Pocket* installed on a desktop, it will collate these too.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0
| Freemium | v5.6.3
● Android | Varies
| Freemium | Varies

02 INSTAPAPER



Store articles you like online and read them offline. *Instapaper* removes clutter and lets you concentrate on core text.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0
| Freemium | v6.1
● Android | Varies
| Freemium | Varies

03 DROPBOX



Dropbox is an easy-to-use and accessible way to store files. Share and view offline too.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0
| Freemium | v3.7
● Android | OS 4.0.3
| Freemium | v2.4.8.10

04 PAPRIKA RECIPE MANAGER



Paprika is fantastic for anyone who constantly searches for recipes. Find a dish you like and the app will save it and neatly format it.

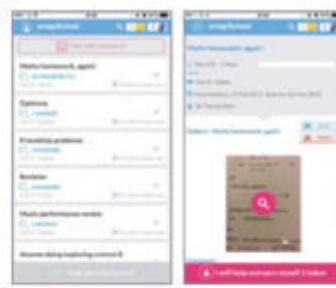
● iPad | iOS 7.0
| £3.99/\$4.99 | v2.1.6
● Android | OS 4.0
| £3.17/\$4.99 | v1.3.8

05 CAMSCANNER



With *CamScanner* you can scan documents and business cards and more before saving electronic versions on your device.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0
| Freemium | v3.6.1
● Android | OS 2.3
| Freemium | Varies



GROUP TEXT+



Group Text+ is designed to let you quickly send messages to groups of people that you set up from your contacts database. The set-up process is very simple and there are many shortcuts included such as showing your location, sharing amusing GIFs from within the app and clipboard items. It only takes a few taps to send complete messages and for those who use groups often, it could become the default solution. It just works.



A clever and time-saving way to send group messages.



● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0
| £2.29/\$2.99 | v1.0.1

SNAPSCHOOL



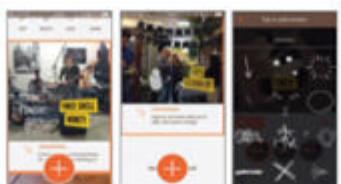
SnapSchool is a brilliant solution for any child who struggles with homework from time to time, which if we are honest is every child. It works by letting them take a photo of a homework question and then asking for help socially. Rewards are given for asking and for answering, and the experience throughout is focused purely on learning in a positive way. This is not cheating, it is collaborative learning using the right tool for the job and it works superbly.



It helps children do homework with real learning. Superb!



● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | Free | v2.0.2



NUTSHELL CAMERA



Would you like to be able to create an inspiring video in seconds and to add special effects to make a film which looks entirely professional? Of course you would and we bet you would like to share your work as well, which is exactly what *Nutshell Camera* is designed for. Snap three photos and these will then be automatically transformed into a short clip to which effects can be added, and the end results are almost always super impressive. This is truly an awesome video creator.

Professional short video creation is now within your grasp.



● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.2

QUEST

NEED AN INCENTIVE TO GET A JOB DONE? IT'S GAME ON...

PROS/CONS

- ▲ The 8-bit styling is authentic and fun
- ▲ The reminder features are particularly strong.
- ▼ You have to get your spellings spot on
- ▼ It could be a little embarrassing to use at work



Let's be honest here: completing tasks is boring. Those lists we create for ourselves fill us with dread and the reminders we receive grate us. But *Quest: Tasks, Reminders & To Do List* compels us to actually want us do these things. By gamifying task management in such a fun and obvious manner, there is a great sense of accomplishment. This is not just about ticking off to-dos, it's about completing quests, collecting things and levelling up - it looks great too.

The app centres around a series of 8-bit computer characters. As you pull down on the screen to create a new task, one of these creatures appears to the right of the entry box. When you later swipe right on the task to indicate that you have completed it, the main avatar charges in and the creature is turned into a collectible. By tapping on these, you eventually complete a quest and this enables you to grab a new item for your character, adding shields, helmets, swords, armour and more. Not only is this a reward for your efforts but you actually end up wanting to complete more tasks in order to get more goodies.

Ensuring this is no mere gimmick app, *Quest* also has powerful reminders. You can set one for a specific date

and then ask for it to be repeated daily, weekly, monthly or yearly. The app can also set alerts so you could have an alarm go off for as long as 30 minutes before the alarm time or as short as five. You can see what tasks await you that day using the Today widget in the Notification centre too.

It's not perfect. There is no autocorrect so spellings have to be spot on and, once a task is completed, there is no quick way of delving into the Completed Tasks to resurrect it. But to accomplish something so polished and so cute as this app has been applauded. It has a strong future ahead.



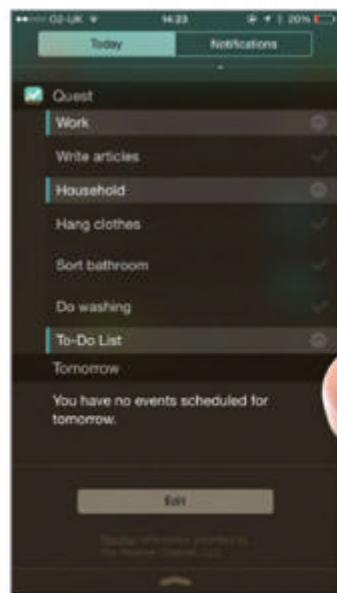
A nerdy task management app that works so well that we actually got our jobs done when we needed to do them.



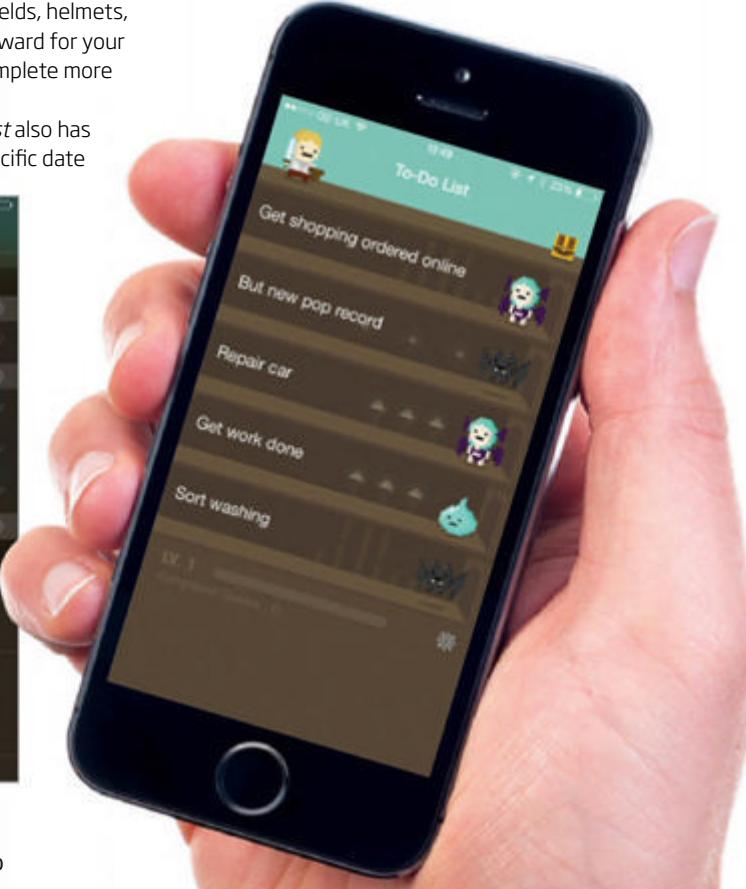
● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v1.1.4
<http://bit.ly/questtasksios>



Above You can view your completed tasks and see when they were ticked off the list

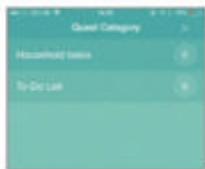


Above The Quest widget shows you the day's tasks and tapping one of them takes you to the app

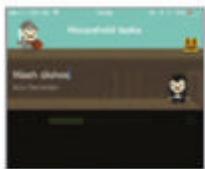


HOW TO...

How to gamify your task management



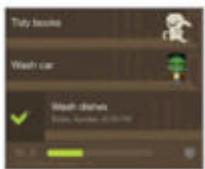
01 Category setup: Set up some categories, just tap on the To-Do List at the top and pull down.



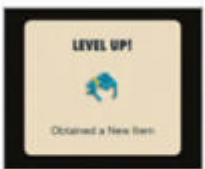
02 Enter tasks: Now tap on the new category you've created and pull down again. Create a new task.



03 Add Reminder: Click Add Reminder and use the scroller to find a date. Indicate repeat and/or alarms.



04 Complete tasks: Swipe to the right to complete a task. A series of collectibles appear. Tap on them.



05 Get a reward: Congratulations, you have a new award. Complete more tasks for more goodies!

CURRENCI



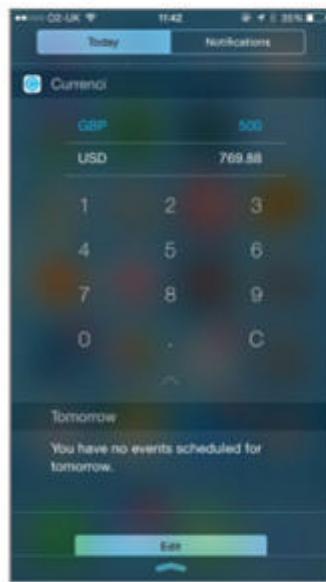
Above You can pack the screen with different currencies and gain instant conversions

HOW MUCH IS THAT CROISSANT IN THE WINDOW?

It is important to get a grasp on how much you are spending when you are abroad, just as it is crucial to understand the current rates when you are buying from a website or app that lists prices in a foreign currency. With *Currenci*, the job of conversion is made as simple as it ever could. You input the amount of money you are looking to convert and it instantly gives you an answer.

The app defaults to British sterling, US dollars and European euros but, with a push up on the screen, you can add many more. The exchange rates are obtained automatically (and will refresh with a pull down) so you don't have to mess around with conversion details. The downside to this is that the results may not necessarily be the exchange rate you receive in reality but as a guide, it is very effective and this has to be kept in mind when using it.

The app also has a widget. By pulling down to call up the Notification centre, the app is re-created using the top two currencies in your list and you can input an amount for an instant conversion. Should you wish to alter the



currencies listed in the widget, simply tap and hold a particular currency within the app and move it up or down.

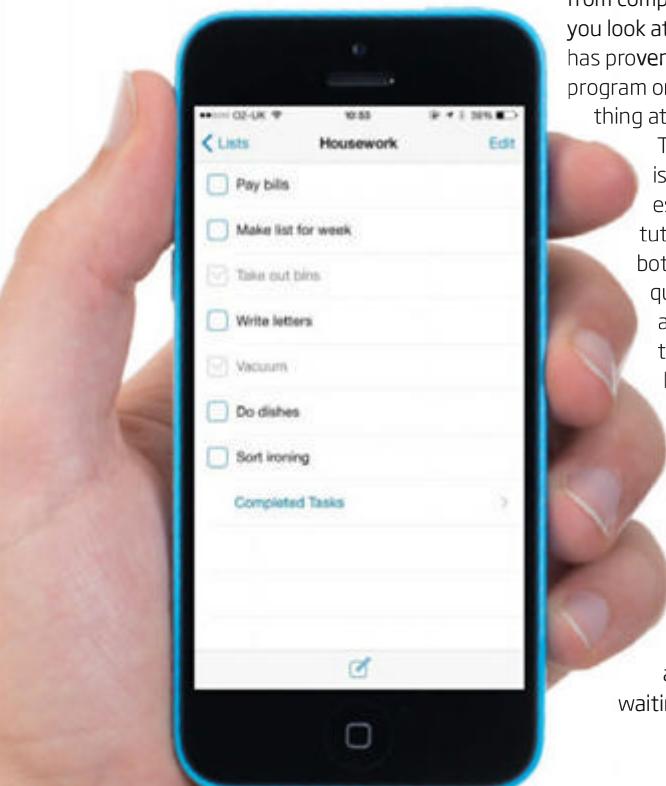
Currenci is a simplified app that makes international dealings easy and feel like second nature.



• iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.1
<http://bit.ly/currencios>

THE HIT LIST

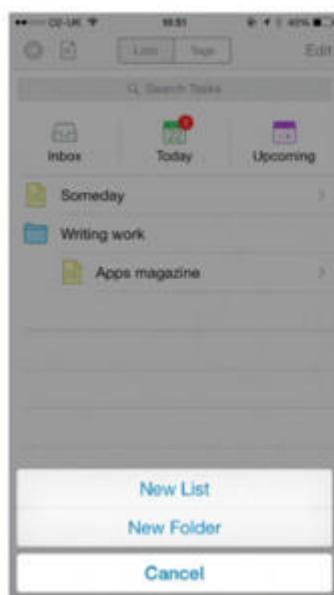
BE MORE PRODUCTIVE WITH LISTS WITHIN LISTS



The iPhone and iPad already have a great task manager called *Reminders* but this fact hasn't deterred many other similar apps from competing for user attention. When you look at apps such as *The Hit List*, which has proven to be an elegant task management program on the Mac, you see this is no bad thing at all.

The best thing about *The Hit List* is that it takes very little learning, eschewing any need for complex tutorials. There is a button at the bottom of the screen that lets you quickly add a new task to your inbox and there is another towards the top for the speedy creation of new lists and folders. Each task can be broken down into subtasks and, by creating folders, they can be well organised. Even better, not only can you set a due date (although, sadly, not a time) you can ensure tasks are done that day or put off until tomorrow or next week with a simple slide to the left.

As a result, you can also see at a glance how many tasks are waiting for your attention, those which



need to be done that day and the number that are upcoming. Tasks can be tagged and quickly filtered via the search bar. Each task is assigned a check box, the ticking of which marks completion, and tasks can be tagged and quickly filtered via the search bar.

With a cool, iOS 8 aesthetic and a Mac app syncing feature, this task manager really is a hit.

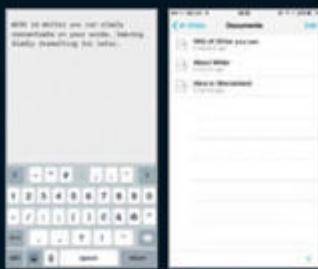


• iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | £10.99/\$14.99 | v2.1.2
<http://bit.ly/thehitlistios>

Left The Notifications Center widget has the look, feel and ease of use as its parent app

TOP 05 apps to...

IMPROVE YOUR WRITING



01 IA WRITER

As one of the original no-frills text editors, *iA Writer* continues to succeed in allowing you clarity of thought.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone | iOS 7.1 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v2.1.2
- Android | OS 4.0 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.0

02 ENGLISH GRAMMAR ULTIMATE

We can all do with brushing up on grammar. This app will guide you through the complexities of the English language.

- ★★★★★
- Android | OS 2.2 | Freemium | v2.3

03 HANX WRITER

Actor Tom Hanks helped make this app. It has a 'clack-clack' typewriter sound to so you can hear, feel and think about each word.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v1.1.1

04 MY WRITING SPOT

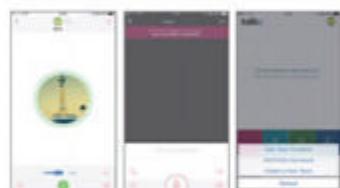
Created for those who want to work on a major writing project this app provides writing structure, note-taking and word counts.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone | iOS 5.0 | £2.29/\$2.99 | v1.9.3
- Android | OS 2.0 | £1.85/\$2.99 | v1.6

05 ADVANCED ENGLISH DICTIONARY & THESAURUS

It's so important to have a dictionary and thesaurus handy for expanding your vocabulary and using words correctly.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v8.4
- Android | OS 4.0 | £0.59/\$0.99 | v7.0



TALKO

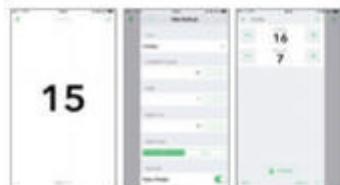


Talko offers many benefits for those who work in teams and who need to keep in contact any time. You can text, share media and do everything else you can individually, but the ability to create a conference call with one tap takes much hassle away from daily communication. Calls can be recorded for later reminders too. It does work well and will be perfect for a select group of people to collaborate on projects, but it is not easy to set up and at times the interface doesn't feel as logical as it could be. A few changes are needed.

A possible solution to conference call hell, but it is quite tricky to set up.



- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.1.11



COMMITTO3



CommitTo3 is a clever app which pushes you and your co-workers to commit to completing just 3 tasks a day. You can check off what you have done in real-time and also see the progress of your colleagues, and the end result should be much more focused productivity and quicker resolution of tasks. We love the simple environment in which everyone can work and especially the idea behind it. You will need to subscribe though.

When groups of people commit to three tasks a day, a lot of work will get done.



- iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v1.0.5



CALCBOT



Calcbot used to be revered as one of the best mobile calculators you could buy, but a lack of development meant that it lost some of its appeal. The latest update, however, refreshes the calculator for 2015 and we now have a beautifully presented tool which will help you in a variety of ways. From seeing all of your calculations to scientific functions and creating favourite ones, it is now an intelligent app (with a simple expression to personalise the otherwise dry calculating no less) that anyone can benefit from every single day.

A great tool, with multiple functions and simple interface.

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | Freemium | v2.0.1



SAVER 2

Saver 2 is an update on an app which was positively received, but

which had fallen back in terms of design and functionality. You now get a professional interface in which to manage your finances and more than enough features to keep track of income, outgoings and savings. Throw in budgets, Touch ID support, and colourful and clear charting, and you should be able to cover just about everything that you want. The only downside is the inclusion of subscription charges for features which should be included in the free version.

A highly competent app will should help you to reach your financial goals.



- iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | £4.49/\$5.99 | v2.0

TALLY 2



Keeping tallies - it sounds like something you would do in the as a child, but there are many benefits that come from making the effort to count all of your everyday important activities. Whether you need to track employees or count specific work-based events, you can keep track in a second through the included today widget or in the *Tally 2 - Quick Counter* app itself. Your tallies are shown in a list and all you need to do to increase the total is tap the screen. You can even integrate it with other apps. It's as simple as it sounds.

Ideal for those who need to keep multiple tallies while you are busy, this is perfect for you.



- iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | Freemium | v2.0.1



Keeping track of aspirational items is not easy and we tend to focus on individual tasks because of this. However, *Wants and Needs* gives you a way to easily note down what you want, what you need and what you should be thankful for. It is easy to get bogged down by material things, but with this app you can start to understand what is really important and it works perfectly. The simplicity of the system is ideal for this task and we have to recommend it highly.

A beautiful way to track the important things in your life.



- iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | £1.99/\$1.99 | v1.0

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FOR ANDROID, MAC, PC, iPHONE & iPAD**

GORGEOUS GAMES

GAWP AT THESE VISUALLY STUNNING PIECES OF MOBILE ART

INFINITY BLADE III

 When Apple has some new hardware to show off, it often uses a game from the *Infinity Blade* series to do it, which should tell you all you need to know about *Infinity Blade III*. To be honest, it's not the best action role-playing game in the world, but it does benefit from simple navigation, risk-taking choices and a beautiful world to explore. The design and look of the app is, in some ways, ahead of most of its competitors too.

A game that will push the graphics capabilities of your phone or tablet to the max.

★★★★★
• iPad+ | iOS 6.0
£4.99/\$6.99



ALTO'S ADVENTURE

 A newly launched endless runner based on snowboarding, *Alto's Adventure* is a real treat to look at. Not only are the graphics beautifully made, they also change with time, so you can be zooming through forests by night and then conversely flipping over ravines by day. The addictive gameplay will keep you coming back for more to finally play out those difficult-looking combos.

Apps ★★★★★
FIVE STAR AWARD
The visuals already stand out, but the weather and light variations are the icing on the cake.
★★★★★
• iPad+ | iOS 7.0

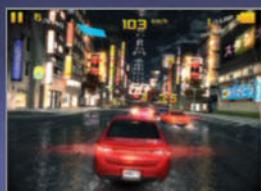


ASPHALT 8: AIRBORNE

 There are plenty of great racing games out there, but it's hard to look past the quality of the graphics in *Asphalt 8* (that 1.15GB app size might have something to do with it). Wild mountain ranges, neon-lit cities, and some of the best-looking supercars ever to appear on a mobile screen: it's all here.

Currently the best entry in a crowded field of racing games with top-notch visuals.

★★★★★
• iPad+ | iOS 6.1.6 | Freemium
• Android | Varies | Freemium



DEFENDERS

 Playing *Defenders* is like watching a carefully daubed painting come to life in front of your eyes: it's the old familiar tower defence game, but you rarely see graphics as intricate and as lovingly rendered as this. As the levels progress and the arena gets busier, the visual appeal of the game seems to keep on increasing and increasing.

Apps ★★★★★
FIVE STAR AWARD
One of those games where every individual pixel feels like it's been carefully positioned.

★★★★★
• iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium
• Android | OS 4.0 | Freemium



MODERN COMBAT 5: BLACKOUT

 As with racing games, picking out the most visually appealing first-person shooter isn't easy, but *MC5* edges it for us. A carefully developed customised rendering engine means that graphics are sharp, detailed and believable, you'll feel like you're in your own movie as you make your way through the levels.

GROUP TEST WINNER Few mobile games are able to combine appealing visuals with adrenalin-pumping gameplay.

★★★★★
• iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £2.99/\$3.99
• Android | OS 4.0 | £2.99/\$3.99





Above You won't be able to take on these shambling monstrosities early on - you need to first be perfectly adept at crafting

Left The Tesla towers on the island each require a six-digit password to depower, along with a little 'undead extermination'...

Below You can craft yourself a variety of weapons to keep threats at bay - the Shock Club is effective enough at battering the undead and the wildlife



understand everything completely before you jump into the game's multiplayer side, though: it's *brutal* out there.

If you're going to drop £2.29 on anything this year, *Radiation Island* makes the most sense - the story alone will take you days to get through, and the open-world sandbox elements will keep you playing for weeks after. Oh, and there are no in-app purchases at all so that's refreshing.

Held back only by some awkward controls, *Radiation Island* is stupendously ambitious and is also incredible value for money.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £2.29/\$2.99 | v1.0.2
<http://bit.ly/radiationislandios>

RADIATION ISLAND

VENTURE OFF THE BEATEN SURVIVAL PATH

PROS/CONS

- ▲ The most ambitious mobile survival sim out there
- ▲ You're getting over £10 worth of game
- ▼ It has the age-old gaming problem with touch controls
- ▼ If you're not paying attention for the first four hours, you'll be totally lost



The scope of *Radiation Island*'s ambition shouldn't be overlooked - the game tries so hard to be more than the sum of its parts; a survival adventure that feels like it should be sat on a desktop PC, rather than a tablet. It's a full on survival sim - an attempt at replicating the success of the genre fathers *DayZ* and *H1Z1* on a mobile device.

And it does it well. Think *Minecraft*, but with a more mature edge and none of the blockiness. Instead, *Radiation Island* pushes the iPad to its limit with 'realistic' graphics (well, as realistic as they can be) and a control scheme that - honestly - is much better realised when you play with a gamepad. Don't worry, though: the game supports all major brands. The touch interface is just a little too complex for the casual player, and often brings you out of the world when you're fiddling around, attempting to pick up things. In a genre that's all about immersion, it's a killer flaw.

Once you've figured out how to navigate the post-apocalyptic island, you're given two main tasks: survival, and disabling Tesla towers scattered across the land. Don't worry about dying (because you will, a lot) - it's all part of the game's narrative. There's a well-paced drip-feed of story beats scattered throughout the game, and the learning curve regarding crafting and survival elements is steep, but not unwieldy. You're going to want to make sure you

ALTERNATIVELY

Five other apps that have you fighting for survival...

01 MINECRAFT

The infamous block game that a lot of developers say is behind survival horror's renaissance.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 5.1.1 | £4.99/\$6.99 | v0.10.4
● Android | Varies | £4.99/\$6.99 | Varies

02 DEAD ON ARRIVAL 2

This game is more action-based than the rest of the apps on our list here - and a lot bloodier - but the core tenet applies: kill others, stay alive, win.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 4.3 | £2.29/\$2.99 | v1.6.7
● Android | OS 3.0 | Freemium | Varies | £1.85/\$2.99 | Varies

03 ORGAN TRAIL: DIRECTOR'S CUT

Inspired by classic game *Oregon Trail*, this zombie survival sim uses old-school graphics and UI for authenticity.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 4.1 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.3.34
● Android | OS 2.1 | £4.99/\$6.99 | v1.1.41

04 DEAD SPACE

It's not quite like its console counterpart, but EA's seminal space gothic is a horror drenched survival experience.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 4.3 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.3.34
● Android | OS 2.1 | £4.99/\$6.99 | v1.1.41

05 THE NIGHTJAR

An innovative audio-only navigation adventure that features the voice of Benedict Cumberbatch - if that's not enough to sell you on the game, then what is?

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £2.99/\$3.99 | v1.2.5

MIDNIGHT STAR

A SHINING STAR, OR A SUPERMASSIVE BLACK HOLE?

PROS/CONS

- ▲ **Impressive visuals**
- *Midnight Star* is a testament to the growing power of mobile devices
- ▲ **Wealth of customisation options**, players can upgrade weapons, abilities, and armour
- ▼ **Clunky user interface**
- it's so busy that might actually confuse some players
- ▼ **IAPs that are frustrating and make upgrading weapons a lethargic task**



If you're a game developer looking to commit creative suicide, you need to try and create a FPS on mobile. Why? Because despite being one of the most popular genres on other platforms, first person shooters rarely work on our small screen counterparts for one reason alone: controls.

Indeed, tight, responsive controls are an essential part of any great FPS, and unfortunately for us, the one dimensional nature of touch screens means its near impossible to bring them to mobile. Seriously, no one has ever really nailed shooter controls on the platform, and at this point it looks like no one ever will.

It's a fact that means there's a sense of inevitable mediocrity surrounding Industrial Toy's sci-fi bullet-fest, *Midnight Star*, and although we hate to be the bearer of bad news, we're obliged to tell you that this is another mobile shooter that fails to live up to the hype.

An 'epic' tale set 120 years in the future, *Midnight Star* tasks players with stopping a strange alien species from

"This is another mobile shooter that fails to live up to the hype"



destroying humanity and life as we know it. Stepping into the shoes of the perpetually quizzical 2nd Lt. Charles Campbell, gamers will swipe, tap, and pinch their way through a story that's every bit as generic as it sounds.

Its a shame, because although the gameplay - a limited take on the FPS that combines on-the-rails movement with tap-to-shoot and manual reload mechanics - is average at best, it's hard to shake the feeling that there's a good game hidden behind the bland story, confusing UI, and frustrating F2P mechanics, which make upgrading weapons, one of the game's biggest features, largely redundant.

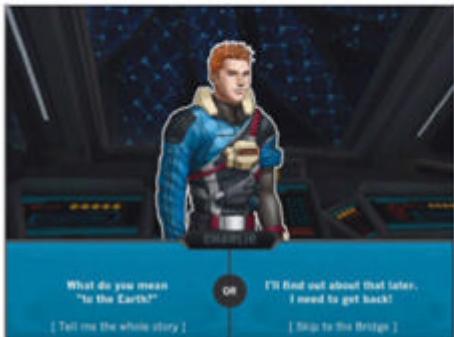
Ultimately, it's a disappointing situation - unless you're a die-hard FPS fan who's burnt through every game that app stores have to offer, you should just sit this one out.

A flawed effort that will only interest the most dedicated FPS fans.



● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v1.0.4
<http://bit.ly/midnightstarios>

Below An alien race hellbent on destroying humanity



Above Play as 2nd Lt. Charles Campbell on board of a space vessel

ALTERNATIVELY

Looking for some more shooter games? We've got just the thing...

01 THE DROWNING

Fight for survival and shoot with pixel-perfect accuracy as you explore a post-apocalyptic future, where an ecological disaster has turned millions into murderous monsters.

★★★★★
● iPad+ | iOS 6.0
| Freemium | v1.32

02 LAWLESS

Lead a crew of professional criminals on missions. With 3D graphics and gritty realism, Lawless is like GTA but without the open world exploration.

★★★★★
● iPad | iOS 6.0
| Freemium | v1.7
● Android | OS 4.0
| Freemium | v1.721

03 CABELA'S BIG GAME HUNT

Hunt across the widespread lands of Africa, featuring some of the world's most dangerous predators. There are plenty of environments to choose from and missions to complete!

★★★★★
● iPad+ | iOS 5.0
| Freemium | v1.2.1

04 N.O.V.A 3

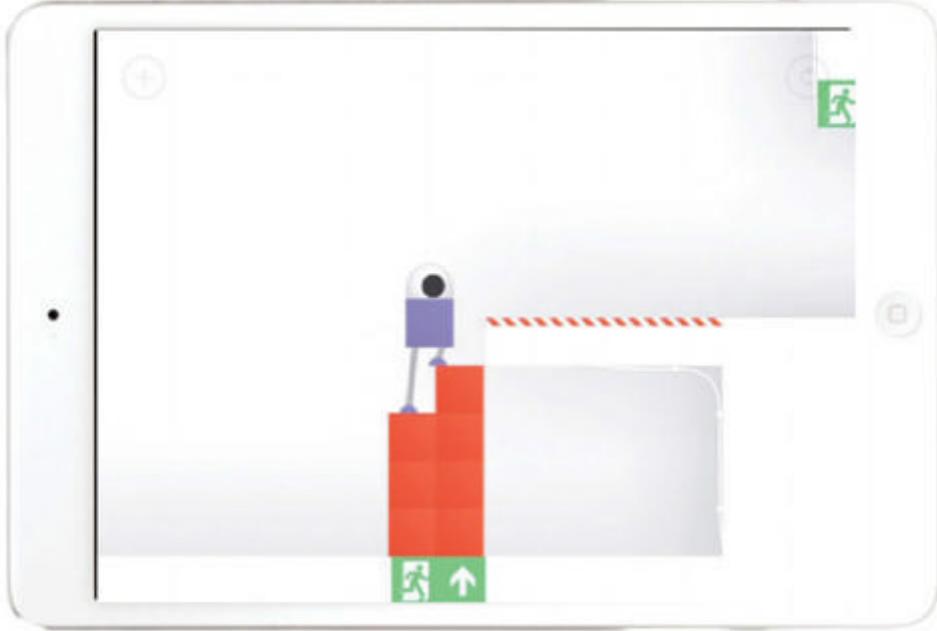
Kal Wardin has been laying low, but now he has received a desperate plea to come to Earth and save mankind. Play with 12 other players across seven different maps.

★★★★★
● iPad+ | iOS 5.0
| £4.99/\$6.99
| v1.0

05 MODERN COMBAT 5

Shoot your way out of one dire situation after another to expose a lunatic trying to tear the world to shreds.

★★★★★
● iPad+ | iOS 7.0
| £2.99/\$3.99
| v1.1.0
● Android | OS 4.0
| £2.99/\$3.99
| Varies



ODD BOT OUT

AN ODDLY BRILLIANT PLATFORMER

 As a reader, you probably start every review with three questions firmly in mind: what's the game, what are its pros and cons, and should you buy it? Well, it's called *Odd Bot Out*, it's damn near perfect, and yes, you need this game more than life itself.

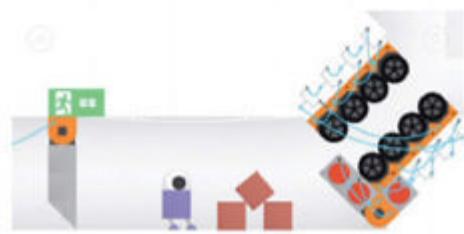
A neat, concise platformer, with more than a hint of console classics *Little Big Planet* and

Portal, *Odd Bot Out* is an endearing, rewarding, and thoroughly entertaining effort from lone wolf developer Martin Magni detailing the struggles of the robot Odd as he tries to escape the robot factory.

The game features 100 bite-sized levels, perfect for gaming on-the-go, an adorable leading man – er, bot – and instinctual, one-touch controls that ensure frustration is a thing

Left Complete all 100 levels and save Odd as he tries to escape the robot factory

Below Each level presents a new challenge, such as building and driving a car



of the past. Magni's sophomore title a triumph.

In case you've somehow missed the point, let's hammer it home: *Odd Bot Out* is by far one of the best games on mobile right now. It's cheaper than a cup of coffee, and it'll last a hell of a lot longer. Why aren't you playing it already?



What, you're still here? For the love of God get to the App Store and buy it, buy it now!



● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v 1.0
<http://bit.ly/oddbotoutios>

● Android | OS 2.3 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v 1.0
<http://bit.ly/oddbotout>

DICTATOR: OUTBREAK

YOU WON'T FOOL THE CHILDREN OF THE REVOLUTION

 There's something rather disturbing about Tigrido's *Dictator: Outbreak*, and despite what you might think, it isn't the fascist conundrums the game throws at you after every lovingly produced ad-break.

No, what's worrying about *Dictator: Outbreak* is the fact that it quite obviously lacks a soul.

From the second you download the game and hit the play button, to the moment you inevitably lose your grip on all the power you had gained, it's impossible to ignore the title's not so hidden ulterior motives. What does that mean? Well, to put it bluntly, *Dictator: Outbreak* is a shameless cash grab.

See, unless you're willing to drop some cash, you'll never be able set a decent high score. Your nameless Dictators will rise and fall while Tigrido lines its pockets by treating players to an all you can eat ad buffet. Any money you spend on IAPs will be icing on Tigrido's free-to-play cake.

It's a get-rich-quick scheme built around some shoddy gameplay, which tasks players with maintaining their grip on power by juggling the affections of three rival groups. For all its pomp and ceremony though, *Dictator: Outbreak* throws meaningless choice after meaningless choice at users until they either pay up, or lose.



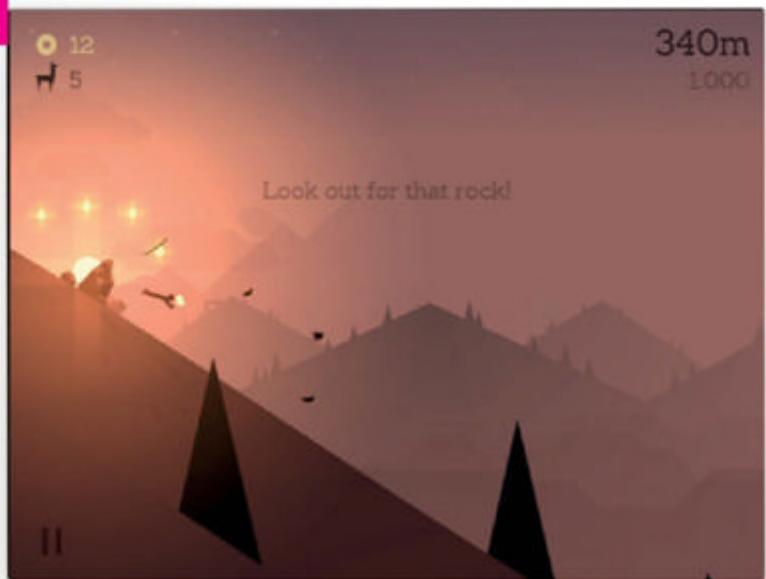
Above Juggle the affection of rival factions

Dictator: Outbreak is one of those games that gives freemium a bad name.



● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v 1.3
<http://bit.ly/dictatorios>
 ● Android | OS 2.3 | Freemium | v 1.3.2
<http://bit.ly/dictatorand>





ALTO'S ADVENTURE

ENJOY ENDLESS SKIING FUN IN THIS INDIE GAME



You can ride through the snow in the day, or at night. You can ride through the wind, the rain, the setting sun and the clinging mountain mist. You chase llamas that have escaped your farm, bombing down the mountainside, rescuing each one with a satisfying ding. You pay once, for an endless runner, and you won't be able to put it down.

That's right - an endless runner without microtransactions, a licensed mascot, cool-down periods and powerups. What you're getting is a solid game that saves this genre.

Mastering the one-touch mechanic, *Alto's Adventure* simply wants you to hop over obstacles and time taps to make the most of any momentum you build en route down the mountain. It sounds simple, but the parallax

Left Quarter pipes, ramps and rails to grind on - this game has every kind of surface

Below Complete objectives and unlock a wingsuit that changes how you play



mountainscapes in the background, a continual day/night cycle and a plethora of just-about-beatable obstacles makes the game compulsive - the best 'just one more go' runner in years.

To add longevity and an end-game to what could have lost its appeal an hour or so in, you get given macro goals to work towards and an in-game shop to unload all your hard-earned gold. There's depth to this game, hidden behind its wonderful art direction, but once you're in, you'll find it hard to let go of.

Alto's Adventure is proof that there's more to the endless runner than cash grabs.



● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99 | v10.1
<http://bit.ly/altosadventureios>

KING OF THIEVES

A ROBBIN' GOOD PUZZLER?



King of Thieves is fun: you have to fling your little beanbag thief around a cave filled with treasure, hopping over fireballs, dodging buzzsaws and sliding under homing birds (don't ask). The physics are satisfying, the learning curve is instantly graspable, and the level design is as sly as it gets.

That's where the IAPs come in: they weigh down this game, moreso than its peers in the free-to-play market. *King of Thieves* is obsessed with locks - each level is blocked by a couple of them to start with, but soon you get

to the stage where you need to use 20 or so to break into a level. That's all well and good, but the recharge economy for the lockpicks is massively off-kilter from the average player's speed. It's not a matter of being impatient: this game wants to milk your wallet.

And it's a shame, because there are some genuinely innovative ideas in the game - the multiplayer aspect is one of the most satisfying we've come across in an app: you can raid other player's maps (which they design themselves) and take their gems, which tie into a leaderboard. It's an innovative system, it's just a shame you won't be able to enjoy it too much because it's hidden behind a ludicrous, unbalanced IAP system that wants to charge you about £10 per run when you hit level 25.

A genuinely fun and addictive game, but its fingers are always desiring and reaching into your pot of gold.



● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v2.0
<http://bit.ly/kingofthievesios>



Above Each level itself takes on the life of a puzzle, almost



Above By using totems, you can fuse gems together - making bigger, shinier jewels



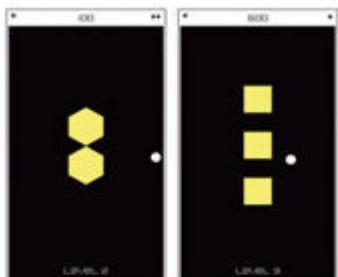
JOLLY JAM

At first glance this game looks like all of the other freemium matching games that are designed to make as much money as possible, but the actual mechanics here are somewhat different. You have to make squares to score by matching the corners and then removing all of the objects within the shape which makes the experience highly addictive. A very good effort.

You may think you have seen it all before, but this game is slightly different.



- iPad+ | iOS 6.0
| Freemium | v3.1.1
- Android | OS 4.0
| Freemium | v3.1



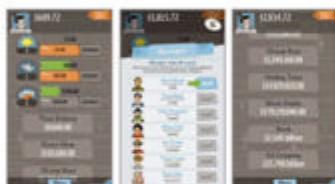
POLYNOID

In *PolyNoid* you have to place lines on the screen to bounce a ball at the right angle to hit targets. It is an incredibly simple idea and one which is quite original, but unfortunately it will either absorb you or get repetitive quite quickly. If you are a skilled game player, the repetitive nature will be apparent, but for children and those who do not play games often, it may find a happy home. It has potential, but to us it feels a little shallow currently.

An original arcade game with addictive attributes, but it can get repetitive.



- iPhone | iOS 7.1
| Freemium | v1.0



ADVENTURE CAPITALIST!



Describing *Adventure Capitalist!* is far from

easy, but we will give it a try. It's an incremental game where you have to increase your wealth over time until you can buy an oil company and you do this by hiring people to increase your smaller businesses. You can continually tap objects to make more money and as you progress up the ladder, the experience becomes very addictive. It's strange but fun.

This game is repetitive and you don't have to do much, but it is great fun!



- iPhone+ | iOS 5.0
| Freemium | v1.0.1
- Android | OS 2.3
| Freemium | v1.0.2.934



POLAR HOP



This game will feel familiar when you first start playing, but the slow and deliberate

controls stand out a mile. It feels exceptionally childish initially, but as you help your penguin jump on each platform and move upwards through the levels you will grow to love it. The potential here is huge and some small changes to the game would improve the experience immensely.

The basic controls slightly hamper what is otherwise a truly splendid game.



- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0
| Freemium | v1.0
- Android | OS 3.0
| Freemium | v1.0.2



TOP 05 apps to...

BEAT THE BOSS



01 BEAT THE BOSS 3

While we would never condone violence, being able to biff the boss is immensely satisfying.



- iPhone | iOS 6.0
| Freemium | v2.0.0
- Android | OS 2.3
| Freemium | v2.0.0

02 SHOOT THE BOSS

Not content with bopping a boss, try this revenge shooter with paper planes.



- iPhone+ | iOS 4.3
| Free | v1.0
- Android | OS 2.3
| Free | v1.0

03 SMACK THE BOSS FREE

It's inspired by Whack-a-Mole and as a stress reliever, this game is great.



- iPhone | iOS 6.0
| Free | v1.0

04 OFFICE JERK

This is more a reaction to the person in the office you don't like than at your boss. Throw office objects at them.



- iPhone+ | iOS 6.0
| Freemium | v1.10
- Android | Varies
| Freemium | Varies

05 KICK MY BOSS

It's an oldie (it's a five-year-old game) but it's an addictive puzzler in which you boot the boss around a series of rooms.



- iPhone+ | iOS 3.0
| £0.79/\$0.99 | v1.0



AG DRIVE



Wipeout was a classic console game which offered a sense of speed which muddled with your mind and now we have *AG Drive* which does exactly the same on a phone or a tablet. The graphics are incredible, but even more impressive is the sheer speed at which the game runs. Throw in a perfect soundtrack, multiple challenges and a carefully created AI and you have a near perfect racer for the modern age.



HUCK IT: FREERIDE SKIING 3D



Huck It claims to be a highly realistic skiing game, but we are not convinced about that. At times the graphics feel too static and the movement too rigid, but if you spend time understanding how it works, the jumps and tricks that you need to perform will become extremely challenging. If you persevere, you will also enjoy the experience, but it does take some time to understand it all.

This is not the most realistic skiing game, but it is challenging at times.



- iPad+ | iOS 4.3
| Freemium | v1.3.0
- Android | OS 2.3
| Freemium | v1.5.0

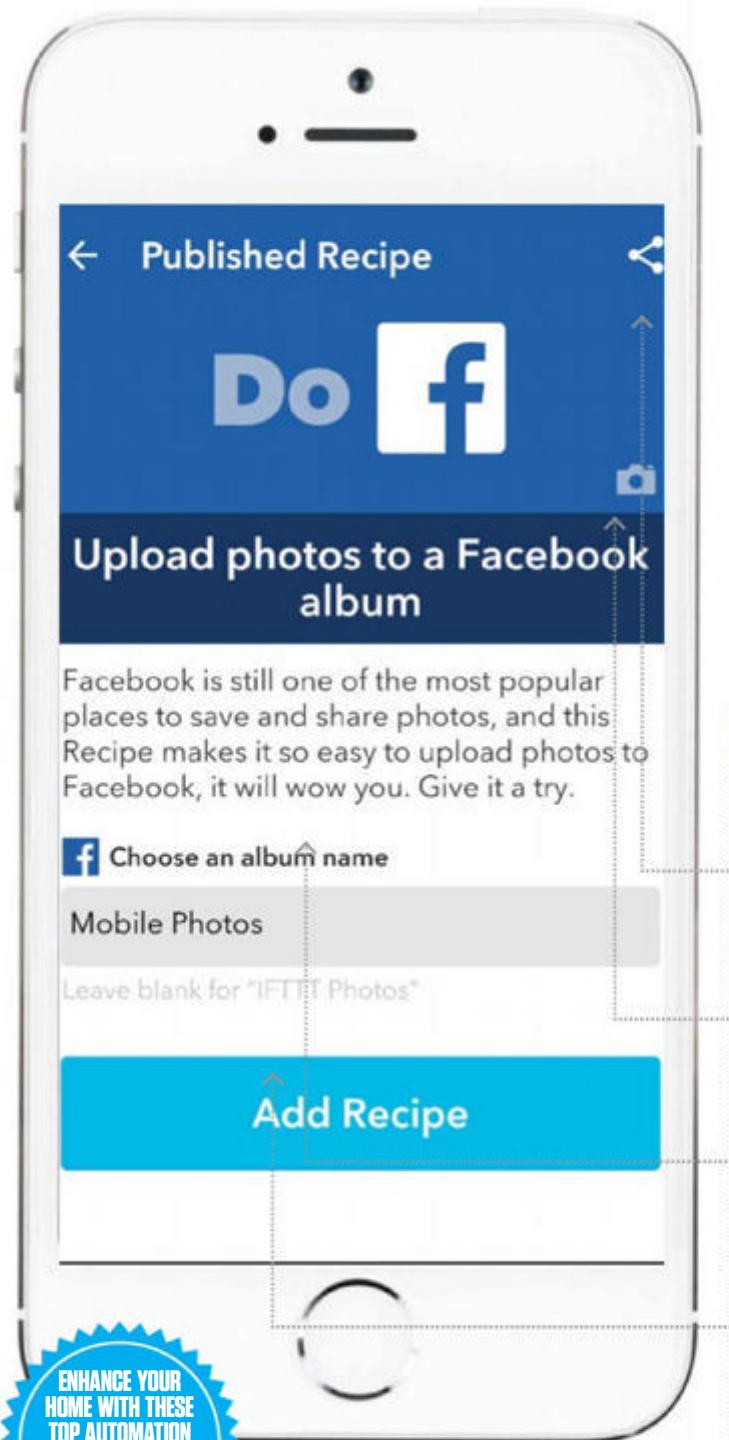
TUTORIAL

TIP

Other Do apps

IFTTT has launched an array of new shortcuts apps, entitled *Do*. These apps let users create recipes around some of the best features on their devices. Best of all, they all link together.

CREATE IFTTT RECIPES WITH DO CAMERA



Facebook is still one of the most popular places to save and share photos, and this Recipe makes it so easy to upload photos to Facebook, it will wow you. Give it a try.

f Choose an album name

Mobile Photos

Leave blank for "IFTTT Photos"

Add Recipe

ENHANCE YOUR
HOME WITH THESE
TOP AUTOMATION
APPS
18

“What makes the app a must-have automation tool is just how it can expand on what your camera can do to no end”

» Make sending and sharing your photos a lot easier and generally more fun with IFTTT's latest recipe-based app

Automation is one of the biggest areas on both iOS and Android platforms that has taken off in the past year. These sort of apps offer users the chance to make using their device simpler and performing mundane tasks a whole lot quicker. At the top of the pile of these apps is the incredible *IFTTT* app. The app is broken up into different sections that enable users to create 'recipes' from. These recipes will be curated of different functions and apps currently stored on your device. To take it a step further, IFTTT has recently launched an array of new automation apps that link with specified features. One of these apps, *Do Camera*, is the focus of this tutorial.

As its name suggests, *Do Camera* focuses on both the front and rear facing cameras on either your iOS or Android device. Users can select from a range of premade recipes to use or attempt to create their own from scratch. What makes the app a must-have automation tool is just how it can expand on what your camera can do to no end; so make sure you download it right away. Once downloaded, it's then a case of experimenting with the various available features and attempting to create a group of well-made and useful recipes that can be shared and potentially downloaded by thousands of other users around the world.

In this tutorial we'll guide you through the process of creating a recipe from scratch purely based around your device's camera functions, as well as show you some of the additional features. If you end up using the *Do Camera* app a lot, make sure to check out the other *Do* apps as well.

FINALISING A RECIPE

> Add the details to your recipe

Share with friends

If you're particularly proud of your creation, you can use the share icon at the top right of the app to share it with your friends

Link to account

For any recipe that involves a third-party app, you'll need to link them to the *Do Camera* app, or perhaps integrate them to a designated album

Add a name

When creating your recipe, make sure that the name for it appropriate to the task in hand. If it's too complicated, people won't be interested

Add recipe

Once the recipe is ready to go, select the Add Recipe option to add it to your list of created and useable recipes

About the app...

DO CAMERA

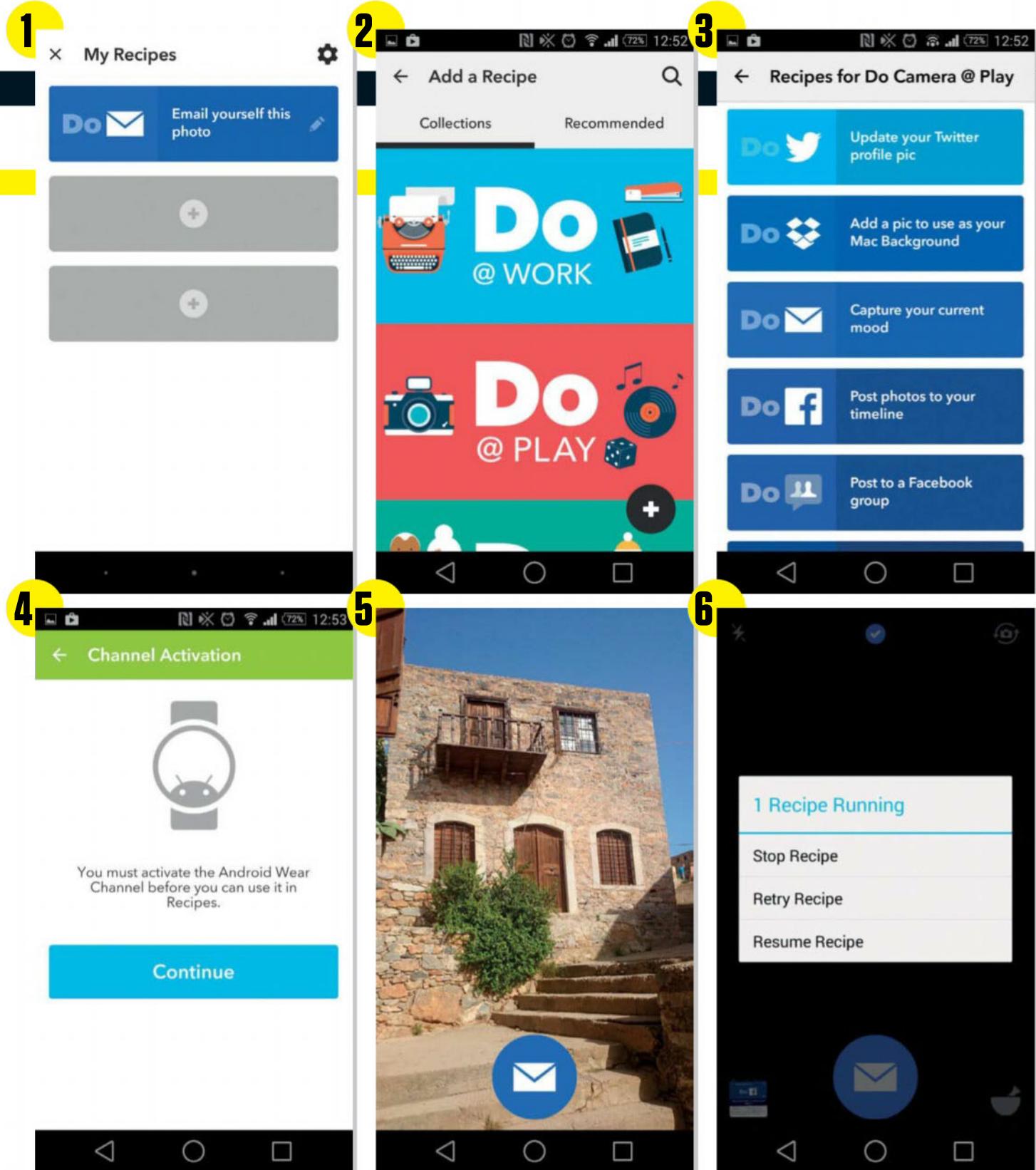
Add new functions, utilise recipes and quickly share photos and documents for work and for personal use

• iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.0
• Android | iOS 4.0 | Free | v1.0.3

The *Do Camera* is very much designed in the familiar IFTTT format, making it an easy place to create camera-based recipes. What makes the app truly great is the scope of premade recipes that are already available, including Android Wear support. However, the app does have its flaws. It can be a little slow to process some of the complex recipes you'll want to create and users can only currently create and store up to three different recipes at one time, which may not be quite enough.

A great addition to the IFTTT stable, and is brilliant for sharing photos but it isn't perfect.





DO CAMERA > Create a new recipe

1 START CREATING

When you first open the *Do Camera* app, you'll find a single premade recipe ready for you to test out. To start the creation process, press on either of the blank recipe tabs that are left.

4 ADD THE ELEMENTS

Go ahead and select the app you want your photos to be linked. As well as having all of the usual *Flickr*, *Instagram* and *Facebook* options, you can also link your photos with any Android Wear smartwatch.

2 CATEGORIES

You can now explore any of the premade recipes at your disposal by using the different categories to help make your choice. Each will have their own unique recipes to use.

5 DID IT WORK?

Back out of the app and test your recipes to see if they were created correctly. Whenever you next take a photo, you should now hopefully see an icon representing your created recipe appear at the bottom of the screen.

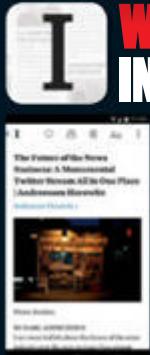
3 CREATE YOUR OWN

Select one of the recipes and it'll be added to the list on the home page of the app. Press on the remaining empty space to begin creating your very own recipe creation from scratch.

6 RUNNING RECIPES

If your recipe isn't working as you'd normally expect, make sure it's running. Open the *Do Camera* app and head to the settings menu to check which recipes are currently running on your device.

THE TOP 200 GREATEST APPS EVER



WHY WE LOVE... INSTAPER

Thanks to the increasing size of our smartphones, the ability to read large bodies of text on your device is now completely viable. To help you with this, *Instapaper* is a minimalist offline reading app, which enables users to save articles and web pages to an offline playlist and read them at a later date. If you've got any interest in reading, then this is a must-have app.

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Freemium | v6.1
- Android | OS varies | Freemium | Varies



WHY WE LOVE... TWEETBOT 3

The Apple App Store has a plethora of quality Twitter clients readily available for users to download and enjoy. In our opinion, the best of the bunch has to be the terrific *Tweetbot 3* app. It fundamentally includes all the usual features that you would normally have access to in the default *Twitter* app, but it certainly shines through when it comes to performance. There is also no obvious lag when you are using the app and it's easy to manage multiple accounts.

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v3.5.2

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE APP? GET IN TOUCH...

TWEET US WITH
YOUR FAVOURITE APPS
@Knowyourapps

OR RECOMMEND
THEM ON FACEBOOK
/AppsMagazine

SEND US AN EMAIL TODAY
WITH YOUR FAVOURITE APPS
apps@imagine-publishing.co.uk

BOOKS

iPhone/ iPad/ Android KOBO READING APP

For functionality and design we would take *Kobo* every time. Free books and cool reading stats.

- iOS 7.0 | Free
- OS varies | Free

iPhone/ iPad iBOOKS

Apple's own native bookstore comes with iCloud features, as well as the ability to change reading settings to suit you.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

iPhone/ iPad/ Android GOODREADS

A great app for book recommendations, *Goodreads* also has wishlists and social links.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

- OS 1.6 | Free

iPhone/ iPad CHOPSTICKS NOVEL

In this novel experience you are given bits of people's lives as you weave the story together in your own mind.

- iOS 4.0 | £4.99/\$6.99

iPad THE FANTASTIC FLYING BOOKS OF MR. MORRIS LESSMORE

Breathtaking visuals and a heartwarming story. Essential.

- iOS 5.1 | £3.99/\$4.99

iPad THE WASTE LAND

Discover TS Eliot's epic and revolutionary poem, view interactive notes and watch related videos.

- iOS 5.0 | £10.49/\$13.99

iPhone/ iPad IPOE 2

Interactive illustrations and music bring the macabre magic of Edgar Allan Poe's haunting poetry to life.

- iOS 5.1 | £3.99/\$4.99

iPhone/ iPad/ Android COMICS

A convenient portal to read over 12,000 comics, and over 500 of them are absolutely free.

- iOS 6.0 | Free

- OS 2.2 | Free

iPhone/ iPad/ Android FRANKENSTEIN

The classic horror story is brought back to life in this interactive adaptation.

- iOS 4.3 | £2.99/\$4.99

- OS 4.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

iPhone/ iPad/ Android AUDIOBOOKS FROM AUDIBLE

Part of the Amazon family, so you have plenty of choice.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

- OS varies | Free

BUSINESS

iPhone/ Android CAMCARD

Scan business cards for easy storage and import contact details direct to your address book.

- iOS 7.0 | £0.79/\$0.99

- OS varies | £0.60/\$0.99

iPhone/ iPad/ Android 1PASSWORD

Store your passwords for your favourite website and more with this secure app.

- iOS 8.0 | Freemium

- OS 4.0 | Freemium

iPhone/ iPad/ Android LOGMEIN

Remotely access your desktop from your mobile so you can take your business on the go.

- iOS 6.0 | Freemium

- OS 2.3 | Freemium

iPhone/ iPad SAYHI TRANSLATE

Speak into this app and have your words translated into 40 languages, either spoken back to you or sent as a message.

- iOS 6.1 | £3.99/\$4.99

iPhone/ iPad RESUME EXPRESS

Create a stunning CV with this step-by-step app that creates a polished final product that can be easily exported.

- iOS 5.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

iPad MEETING MINUTES

Schedule meetings, plan seating, save notes and record your minutes all in one, very comprehensive app.

- iOS 5.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

iPhone/ Android JAMES CAAN BUSINESS SECRETS

Find out about hiring staff, raising money and more in this app.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

- OS 2.1 | Free

iPhone/ iPad SCANNER PRO BY READOLE

Turn your iDevice into a portable scanner. Snap a photo of a document to create a PDF and export to Dropbox.

- iOS 7.0 | £2.29/\$2.99

iPhone/ iPad HOW TO TIE A TIE ANIMATED GUIDE

Top tips and AR projection for tying 30 nifty knots - perfect for any occasion.

- iOS 7.1 | £3.99/\$4.99

iPhone/ iPad DRAGON DICTATION

This app instantly translates the spoken word into text. Send yourself notes and reminders.

- iOS 4.0 | Free

- OS 2.2 | Free

EDUCATION

iPad THE ELEMENTS: A VISUAL EXPLORATION

View rotatable 3D images of every element in the periodic table.

- iOS 7.0 | £10.49/\$13.99

iPhone/ iPad/ Android STAR WALK

This AR app helps you explore the stars, planets and constellations in the night sky.

- iOS 6.0 | £2.29/\$2.99

- OS 4.0 | £1.79/\$2.99

iPhone/ iPad KHAN ACADEMY

A library of over 3,000 videos enables users to learn pretty much anything they want, no matter their interests.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

iPhone/ iPad iTUNES U

One of the most powerful educational tools around, with full university courses available direct on your device.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

iPhone/ iPad/ Android TED

Regular programming with remarkable speakers and lectures for free via this learning app.

- iOS 8.0 | Free

- OS 4.0 | Free

iPad DK THE HUMAN BODY APP

Takes you on a journey deep into the human body, with video content and annotated graphics. A fine iPad app.

- iOS 4.0 | £4.99/\$6.99

iPhone/ iPad/ Android HENRI LE WORM

Top chef Raymond Blanc and actor Simon Pegg teach children about cooking.

- iOS 6.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

- OS 4.0 | £1.29/\$2.12

iPad NHM EVOLUTION

Explore 600 million years of evolution with a fossil timeline and multimedia treatments that explain the science.

- iOS 4.3 | £10.49/\$13.99

iPhone/ iPad/ Android DUOLINGO

Learn a new language for free, from grammar basics to translating entire websites.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

- OS varies | Free

iPhone/ iPad NASA VISUALIZATION EXPLORER

Everything NASA in one place, including news on missions and stunning imagery.

- iOS 5.1 | Free

ENTERTAINMENT

iPhone/ iPad/ Android NETFLIX

Cross-device viewing thanks to the cloud. An absolute must for subscribers to the service.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

- OS varies | Free

iPad PROCREATE

Paints, inks and abstract shapes are all readily available, so you can achieve just the effect you're looking for.

- iOS 8.1 | £4.49/\$5.99

iPhone/ iPad SNEAK

In this game you literally have to sneak up on your phone from a distance to capture photos of the shy monsters.

- iOS 5.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

iPhone/ Android iPLAYER RADIO

So much more than an extension of the iPlayer catch-up service, with a great interface.

- iOS 6.0 | Free

- OS 4.0 | Free

iPhone/ iPad REMOTE

This handy app lets you connect to iTunes wirelessly and play music and movies that are on your Mac or PC.

- iOS 7.0 | Free

iPhone/ iPad HAUNTING MELISSA

A horror movie for the mobile era, the producer of *The Ring* directs this experimental but highly gripping ghost story.

- iOS 7.1 | Freemium

iPhone/ iPad ACTION MOVIE FX

Give your home videos some truly epic Hollywood effects with this brilliant free app for your iOS device.

- iOS 5.0 | Freemium

iPhone/ iPad/ Android VLC STREAMER

The streaming service lets you share media from your desktop to your device.

- iOS 6.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

- OS 4.0 | £1.35/\$1.99

iPhone/ iPad MORFO 3D FACE BOOTH

Make talking 3D masks of absolutely anyone with this clever, customisable app. Then share the results via email.

- iOS 4.3 | £0.79/\$0.99

FINANCE	FOOD & DRINK	GAMES	HEALTH	LIFESTYLE	MEDICAL
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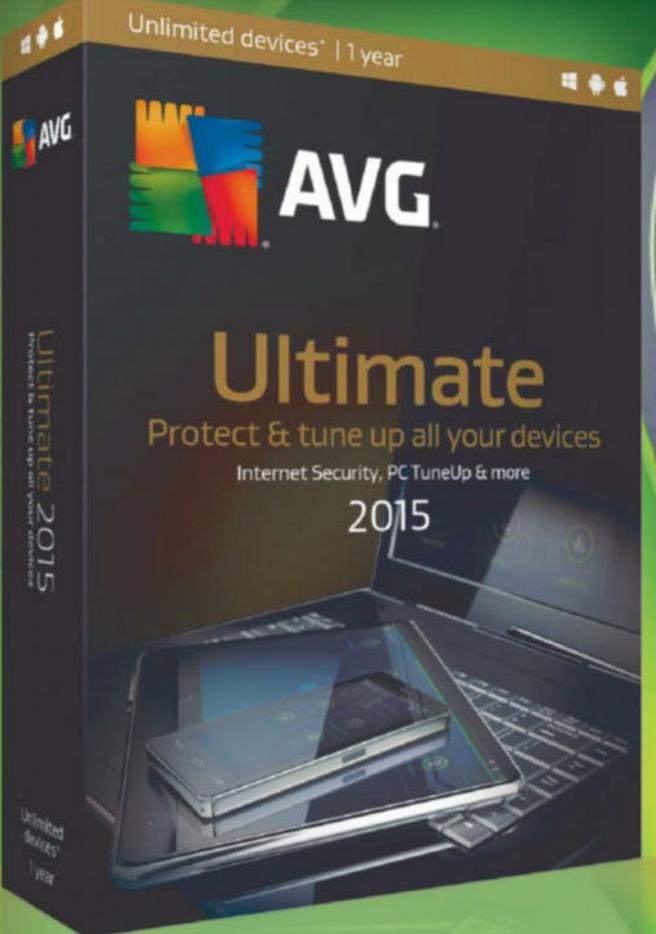


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A photograph of a computer monitor displaying the AVG Zen interface. The screen shows various icons and status indicators for different devices, including a laptop, a smartphone, and a tablet. The interface is colorful and modern. Below the monitor, there is a laptop and a smartphone also displaying the AVG software interface.

AVG Ultimate 2015

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Link Protection

Scans web, Twitter,
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File Shredder

Securely delete files to
prevent snooping



Online Shield

Protects you from
harmful downloads



Data Safe

Encrypts
& password-protects
private files



Real-time Updating

Get the latest virus defenses
as soon as they are
available



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All the features of one of the
most downloaded AV apps on
Google Play



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